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The Spectator

"Older than the New York Times"

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PHOTO BY EMMA FURMAN '07

Two doors were broken in Milbank over the weekend. The cost of replacement is $250 per door.

Students cause damage in Milbank over the weekend

by Martin Connor '09
News Writer

The Hamilton community was informed of "a disturbing amount of vandalism and disruptive behavior" that took place in Milbank residence hall this past Friday night and Saturday morning via an all-campus e-mail sent out by Dean of Students Nancy Thompson on Monday, February 6. On the morning of Saturday, February 4 at 2:58 a.m. a call was placed to Campus Safety with complaints of excessive noise and a possible fight. When Campus Safety officers arrived they found a large quantity of trash scattered in the courtyard between doors two and three, along with several garbage cans, which were thrown from the third story window of the stairwell above Door Three. Glass on both doors leading into the Residential Life office were shattered as well, making a total of three destroyed doors in two weeks. Upon entering the building Campus Safety officers discovered that two exit signs had been torn down and destroyed, one in Suite 33 and the other in Suite 34.

One student witnessed part of the vandalism and violence. He said that he saw "several guys swaggering around Milbank courtyard." The witness commented that the men were acknowledging the trash that had been thrown out of the window when one of the other Milbank residents "began berating" them. The witness said that "one of the culprits then challenged one of the non-offenders." Finally, after the "non-offender" was thrown in the mud several times, "campus safety showed up and the culprits scattered." [*Editor's Note*: *The Spectator* protects the anonymity of this source due to the nature of the situation.]

Jeff Landry, the director of residential life, called the incident the "most significant we've had in

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Speaker to celebrate Black History Month at Hamilton

by Caitlin Rochford '06
News Editor

Black Panther Member Fredrika Newton will speak on campus, subject to successful contract negotiations. Student Assembly (SA) approved partial funding for the Black Student Union (BSU) to bring Newton to campus to speak. The funding was granted at the January 23 meeting.

While arrangements are still being made, Newton would visit Hamilton's campus on February 28, a day specified by BSU as Black Empowerment Day. BSU has designated the last day of February each year to be Black Empowerment Day, the accumulation of a month of celebration for Black History Month. A calendar of Black History Month Events at Hamilton College can be found on page six of this issue.

If she comes, Fredrika Newton will speak on "black empowerment in terms of her experience in the Black Panther movement," according to BSU Member Andre Chapman '07, who presented the funding request to SA.

Fredrika Newton is the wife of the late Huey P. Newton, who founded the Black Panthers. Ms. Newton joined the Black Panther Party in 1969 and is now the president of the Huey P. Newton Foundation, a non-profit educational organization, according to the Black Panther's website.

Huey Newton served not only as founder, but as Minister of Defense for the Black Panthers during much of the 1960s. He grew up in Oakland, California and was arrested for the first time for burglary at the age of 14, an act he attributed to feeling unwanted in his school system, according to the Gale Group's Biography Resource Center. At the age of 22, he was jailed for six months for assault with a deadly weapon.

A law student, Newton spent much of his time teaching African-Americans in the Oakland area about their legal rights. In 1967, Huey Newton was convicted of manslaughter for the death of Oakland Police Officer John Frey, and Newton was sentenced to two-to-15 years in jail. Three years later, the Appellate Court reversed the decision. After several trials, the charges were dropped due to technicalities.

Newton was gunned down by a drug dealer in 1989. During his lifetime he was also arrested for embezzling funds from a school run by the Black Panthers to support his alcohol and drug addictions, according to the Biography Resource Center. Associate Dean of Students for Diversity and Accessibility Berenecea Johnson emphasized that Fredrika Newton was not known to have been involved with any of the violent aspects of the Black Panthers and was in fact not even married to Huey Newton at the time of his arrest for manslaughter.

The Black Panther organization is also known for contributing a great deal to the Civil Rights Movement. Assistant Professor of Sociology Jenny Irons said that the Black Panthers were the result of a society in which African-Americans were able to bring about positive

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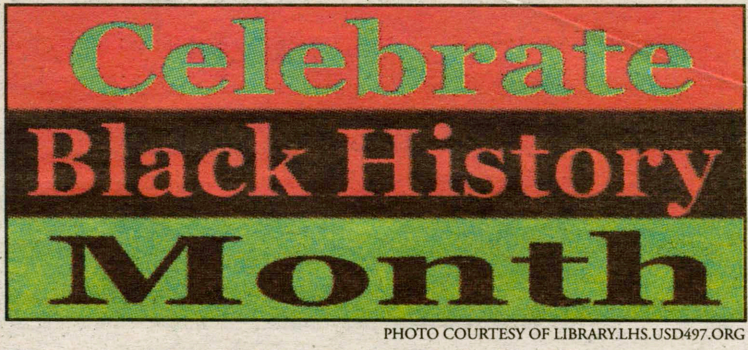

PHOTO COURTESY OF LIBRARY.LHS.USD497.ORG

February is Black History Month. BSU will host many events, including a party and a movie night to celebrate.

New rules for fire

by Greta Roseberger '08
Managing Editor

The Hamilton campus community received notice of a "significant change in state-wide fire code interpretation" via an e-mail from Associate Vice-President for Facilities and Planning Steve Bellona on January 30. In the e-mail, Bellona stated that "the change will have a direct impact on both Hamilton College and the Village of Clinton. We are now required to notify the Clinton Fire Department through Oneida County 911 of each and every fire alarm activation on campus. While most academic institutions were previously allowed to respond to fire alarms internally for verification purposes before dialing 911, this practice is no longer acceptable."

Bellona also reminded students that false fire alarms should

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PHOTO COURTESY OF DENISON.EDU

Fire trucks will now respond any time there is an alarm.

Former Custodian Elizabeth Goodson passes away at 63

by Kara Labs '09
News Writer

Elizabeth A. Goodson, a recently retired custodian at Hamilton College, passed away at her home in Franklin Springs, New York at the age of 63 on February 3, 2006 at approximately 11 a.m. Even though she had been ill for some time, her death came unexpectedly. Liz, a native of this area, had worked on the Hill for over thirty years. During that time she was a member of the custodial staff for sixteen years, from October 23, 1990 to December 31, 2005. Sadly, the Hamilton community was to celebrate Liz's retirement at noon on the day she passed away.

Liz was born in Utica on June 9, 1942, grew up in Franklin Springs, and graduated from Clinton Central School. She has three children, Sandy, Katy and Richard Goodson.

Liz has been a member of the St. James Episcopal Church in Clinton and enjoyed making crafts. "She was a hardworking individual. A warm and caring person who was a friend to everyone she met. Her warm and friendly face across campus will surely be missed," says John McGovern, manager of custodian services at Hamilton. She was a caring individual who always put the needs of those around her before her own.

Her obituary was published in the *Utica Observer Dispatch.* Calling hours were on Tuesday, February 7, from 4 to 7 p.m. and her funeral was held on Wednesday, February 8, at 10 a.m. at the Owens-Pavlot Funeral Service, Inc. Funeral Home, in Clinton. She was buried at Sunset Hill Cemetery the same day.

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Milbank residents upset over recent damage

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a long time, probably a couple of years." Though Milbank traditionally has the highest damages of all the residence halls on campus, last semester the damages to Milbank totaled only $1,525, vastly lower than usual. Yet the damages inflicted on Friday night alone totaled almost half of the damage costs for last semester, with a price tag of roughly $250 for each door and roughly $85 for each exit sign.

The incident was not only characterized by vandalism and violence, but also posed serious safety issues. The destruction of doors threatens the security of the building and the destruction of exit signs could prove extremely dangerous in the event of a fire, a serious consideration accentuated by the fire in Milbank last semester. "When safety concerns start to come into play it becomes a much bigger deal," said Travis Hill, the assistant director of Residential Life for the south side of campus.

An investigation is currently being conducted by Campus Safety. So far no students have taken responsibility for the incident, but the student body and residents of Milbank have been extremely responsive and helpful. Many have given statements and eyewitness accounts to Campus Safety.

The administration is not alone in its frustration and concern. Residents of Milbank have been upset as well by the events on Friday night. Several students have taken a proactive stance, sponsoring a petition against the unmitigated vandalism in Milbank.

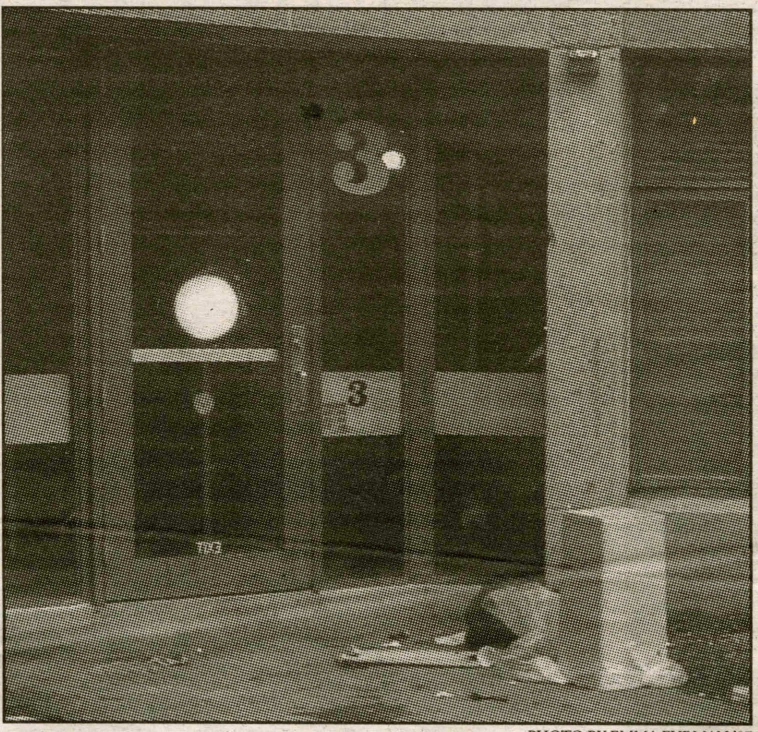

PHOTO BY EMMA FURMAN '07

Trash cans were apparently thrown from third story windows on Friday night.

The petition has been the recipient of wide support and many are hopeful that the initiative the residents are taking will have a strong influence in fighting the destructive atmosphere propagated in Milbank. "Milbank has a culture where students go there thinking that it's going to be crazy, there are going to be parties, there is going to be damage," said Hill. "A group of motivated students against it is the best first step that we can have for actually making an influence. It starts with people being willing to speak up and say this isn't OK and taking it upon themselves, to a degree within reason of course, to say, 'I don't agree with what you're doing.'"

The petition and the support it has gained have demonstrated a student sentiment to change the destructive atmosphere of Milbank. Writers and endorsers of the petition feel that this year the destructive atmosphere is being nurtured by the presence of a minority of residents. The petition demands action from the administration to stop the vandalism; its text is as follows:

"We, the undersigned, write this petition to confirm that we are outraged and offended by the actions of members of the Delta Upsilon fraternity in Milbank as well as the lack of action taken by members of the administration thus far. Early this morning (February 4, 2006) members of the fraternity were seen by many residents of Milbank throwing garbage cans from the third story window. Many of us were awoken and disturbed by the raucous noise this caused as well as members yelling and chanting 'We are DU' repeatedly. Evidence of this can still be seen in the form of trash strewn around the courtyard between doors two and three. Even more disturbingly, both of the doors leading into the Residential Life offices were smashed and destroyed to the point of needing definite replacement. This is not the first time we have seen such extreme damage done to our dormitory. Since it is doubtful that someone will come forward and claim responsibility for these actions, we will have to bear the brunt of the burden financially, and are also forced to live with the fear of physical violence that can and has been initiated against some of us by members of the aforementioned fraternity. We are tired of being afraid of our possessions being stolen, our residence hall being damaged, our friends being hurt, being awoken in the middle of the night to chants of DU superiority, of being held financially responsible for damage we do not cause and demand that the College take action to fix these problems."

The investigation being conducted by Campus Safety to hold individuals responsible for the incident is still underway. "We're investigating trying to find out the individuals responsible and if there's an organization involved then obviously we'll hold the organization accountable too," said Dean Thompson.

It is clear from the nature of the petition and the remarks of the administration that students and administrators feel that measures must be taken to prevent further incidents of this nature. Some have proposed an increased presence by Campus Safety or Residential Advisors.

During a meeting of the Alcohol Coalition, which is composed of several students and many top administrators, on Thursday afternoon, the Milbank damage was discussed at length. Many felt that similar incidents have been occurring for a long time and were related to fraternity presence. Many also felt that disciplinary measures have thus far been principally reactive rather than proactive.

Dan Fielding, the President of ISC and a member of the Alcohol Coalition, explained the arsenal of disciplinary measures that can be employed against fraternities. "There's any measure of things from 'you can't have a party this weekend' to 'you're suspended for a semester' to 'you're kicked off campus and can't have another pledge class." The administration also has the ability to limit funding that is normally available to fraternities to help subsidize the cost of large events.

Though many ideas are in formulation about how to fight vandalism and destructive behavior on campus, administrators and students alike are optimistic that active student initiative will be one of the most valuable resources in preventing the formation and continuation of a destructive atmosphere in Milbank and across campus.

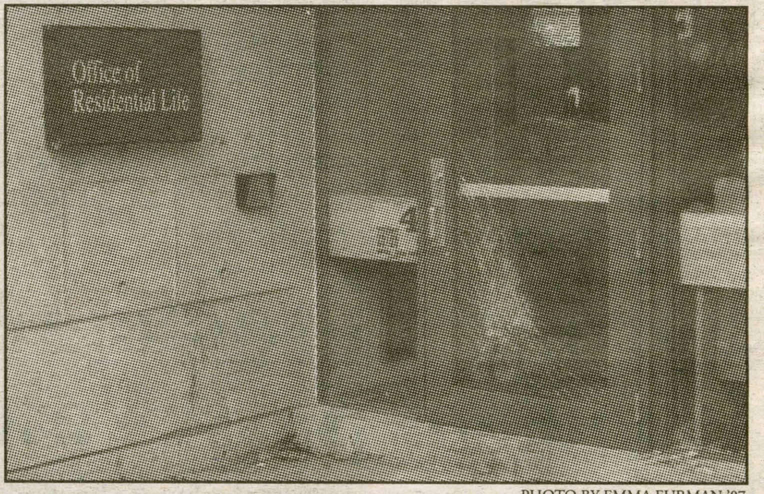

PHOTO BY EMMA FURMAN '07

A Milbank Town hall meeting will take place on Monday to discuss possible solutions to recent damage.

NYS Attorney Gen. candidate Maloney to rally on campus

by Susan Stanton '09
News Writer

On February 18, 2006, the Hamilton College Democrats will sponsor a campaign rally and talk with Sean Patrick Maloney, who is running for the 2006 democratic nomination for New York State Attorney General. The talk will be held at 5:30 p.m. in the Science Center Auditorium. Also invited are the local Kirkland Democrats, along with the Utica College, Colgate University and Syracuse University Democrats.

PHOTO COURTESY OF SEANMALONEY.COM

Sean Maloney (center) with President of the NYS Democrats Evan Lederman.

At the rally, the College Democrats will be serving pizza as Maloney shows a short campaign video and then gives a speech, followed by a question and answer session.

The College Democrats invited Maloney to Hamilton after hearing him speak at a Cornell University conference. "He's got a lot of experience, and he is a really engaging speaker to listen to," Jonathan Kuhl '06, president of the College Democrats, said explaining the group's reasons for inviting Maloney to speak. Kuhl also explained that "Along with getting people more aware about the elections that are going to be coming up next fall, he is a young guy who is focusing on the youth vote and gearing his campaign towards people our age."

Sean Maloney is running against Mark Green, Andrew Cuomo and Richard Brodsky, along with nine others for the position held currently by Eliot Spitzer, who is now running for Governor.

From 1997-2000 Maloney worked as a senior West Wing advisor to President Clinton, making him the youngest person ever to serve as the President's staff secretary. In the past Maloney has worked as a pro bono lawyer, successfully obtaining political asylum in the United States for a Honduran labor leader. He also represents the family of Matthew Shepard, a hate crime victim known throughout the country. Maloney is currently a corporate attorney who specializes in criminal and institutional investigations at the law firm of Willkie Farr & Gallagher.

For over ten years Maloney has been active with New York politics ranging from service on his Community Board to service on the Board of the Empire State Pride Agenda, a civil rights organization. He currently resides in New York City with his partner and three adopted children.

Maloney's campaign platform embodies his desire for reforms in

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Black Panther member may speak for Black History month

*from **Panthers**, page 1*

change through normal actions. She said that the Black Panthers realized that "simply working through regular channels wasn't going to bring about change because they were working within a system and that system wanted to perpetuate itself." Irons said that one result of this realization was the recognition that they could no longer work along with whites. Irons noted the Freedom Summer of 1964, when there was an increased "sense that [white students] would take over the movement."

Irons also noted that although the Black Panthers may not have been viewed as legitimate by many at the time, this is often the case with any group that is criticizing the current system of government. "When things get that bad," she said, "it doesn't make sense to work within the system."

Hamilton College Chaplain Jeff McArn concurred. "It was hard [for the Black Panthers] to present themselves as a force for positive change when they were undermined by the mainstream," he said. McArn noted that the Black Panthers played a leading role in their communities for Head Start programs.

Commenting on the tension between the Black Panther movement and Martin Luther King's non-violent movement, McArn said, "It was a question of effectiveness." McArn commented that the goals of the Civil Rights Movement did not seem to be working with King's model of non-violence. McArn also mentioned that there were in fact very few reported instances of violence related to the Black Panthers.

"[The Black Panthers] clearly rejected non-violence as a principle," McArn said, but also noted that the landscape of the Civil Rights Movement at that time had to be taken into consideration. "What creates social change is predominately the public becoming aware of problems as 'our' problems," he said.

Some members of campus were more critical of Ms. Newton's invitation to speak at Hamilton. Ben Noble '08 president of the Hamilton Republican's Club said, "I think that it is irresponsible of BSU to invite Ms. Newton as the only speaker in celebration of Black Empowerment. It would be more appropriate to invite someone who represents the non-violent aspect of the Civil Rights Movement."

Kyle Graham '06 said, "The ideas and goals of the Black Panthers are completely anachronistic and irrelevant in today's society. The absurdity of most of the demands clearly written in the 'Ten-Point Program' of the Black Panthers is unparalleled. For instance, 'point' nine states, 'We want freedom for all black and oppressed people now held in U.S. Federal, State, County, City and Military prisons and jails. We want trials by a jury of peers for all persons charged with so-called crimes under the laws of this country.' A quick Google search reveals that the Black Panthers organization is asking the federal government to release 31 percent of all incarcerated individuals in this country. Have none of these men, men like Fredrika Newton's husband ever committed a crime? In the end, I'm a firm advocate of freedom of speech, however, I doubt whether Fredrika Newton's discussion will shed light upon contemporary race issues."

BSU requested $6,400 of the $7,500 that it would cost to bring Ms. Newton to campus. SA granted $3,200 with the assumption that BSU could solicit funds from other offices on campus.

According to BSU President Denroy Thomas '07, a contract has yet to be signed to bring Fredrika Newton to campus. A statement submitted by BSU Advisor and Associate Professor of Philosophy Todd Franklin said, "The [Black Student] Union was drawn to Ms. Newton because of her status as a living link to the Black Panther Party and her continuing commitment to the Black Panther Mission. However, a number of details remain to be resolved and negotiated before a contract is signed, namely, a customary solicitation of previous hosts for feedback and further discussions concerning the aim and content of the talk itself. Presuming these matters are resolved to the Union's satisfaction, the contract will be signed and final preparations for the visit will commence."

PHOTO COURTESY OF PBS.ORG

Black Panther member Fredrika Newton may speak on campus at the end of the month.

A statement from Thomas insinuated that BSU was not as certain that Newton would be visiting, saying that he would be happy to comment on "whichever speaker we bring up." Thomas declined further comment. However, Dean Johnson said that the contract would most likely be signed by Monday, noting that they were simply clarifying negotiations. Dean Johnson said that BSU did have a list of other possible speakers from before the decsion to invite Ms. Newton had been made.

SA President Eileen Starrett '07 and Treasurer Brook Woolcott '06 both said that BSU would have to make another proposal for funds if Newton was not the speaker. Starrett said, "If the Black Student Union decides to bring a speaker other than Fredrika Newton to Hamilton, they will need to reapply to Student Assembly for funding. This past weekend, Student Assembly had our Spring Semester Funding Hearing where much of our funding was appropriated to a wide variety of student organizations on campus. BSU was pre-approved half of their requested funding prior to the hearing due to time constraints. Funds were requested to bring Newton to campus in order to fulfill a contract. If Newton does not, in fact, come to Hamilton, then the appropriated funding will return to Student Assembly and will then be available to other student organizations who request funding based on the recommendation of the Funding Committee and the vote of the Student Assembly Central Council."

PHOYO COURTESY OF AFRICAWITHIN.COM

Huey P. Newton, the late husband of Fredrika Newton, was the founder and Minister of Defense of the Black Panthers.

WORLD NEWS

MADRID, Spain -- Russian President Vladimir Putin on Thursday invited leaders of Hamas to Moscow, saying his country -- unlike most of the West -- does not see the Palestianian group as a terrorist organization.

Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh said in Gaza group members would be "delighted" to visit Russia if officially invited. Israel reacted coolly.

Hamas' surprise Jan. 25 election victory sent shock waves around the world. The group's founding manifesto calls for the destruction of Israel, and it has refused to move away from that position since the election.

Alexander Kalugin, Russia's special envoy for the Middle East, said in Moscow that Russia would use the meeting to ask the militant group to recognize Israel's right to exist.

Putin, ending a two-day visit to Spain. urged the world not to turn its back on Hamas.

"Hamas came to power ... as a result of democratic, legitimate elections and we must respect the choice of the Palestinian people," he told a press conference. "We have to look for solutions for the Palestinian people, for the international community, and also for Israel."

NATIONAL NEWS

SAN FRANCISCO -- Peace activist Cindy Sheehan said Thursday she will not run against U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein in the Democratic primary.

Sheehan, who camped outside President Bush's ranch in Texas to protest the Iraq war, said she won't challenge the state's senior senator even though she thinks Feinstein hasn't done enough to oppose the war. Sheehan's 24-year-old son was killed in Iraq in 2004.

"I think I'm more effective on the outside than on the inside," Sheehan said.

During a trip to Venezuela last month, Sheehan said supporters had encouraged her to take on Feinstein in the June primary.

Sheehan, 48, was arrested last week before Bush's State of the Union address and ejected from the House gallery on a charge of unlawful conduct for wearing a T-shirt with an anti-war message. Capitol Police later dropped the charge, but Sheehan said Thursday she plans to sue over the incident.

Sheehan also said she plans to pitch her tent outside the president's ranch in April.

IVORY TOWERS

SOUTH BEND, Ind. -- Kerry Walsh knew there'd be talk when a group of students proposed putting on "The Vagina Monologues" at the University of Notre Dame.

The Eve Ensler play, based on discussions with 200 girls and women about their feelings for their anatomy, includes sections about homosexuality, orgasms and rape.

"I knew from the get-go there was going to be some point where the university or someone would put their foot down and say, 'We really need to talk about this,'" said Walsh, who was a senior English major when she directed the play.

Four years later, that time has come.

The Rev. John Jenkins, Notre Dame's president, announced last month he was scaling back the play this year -- limiting it to a classroom setting and barring ticket sales. He is seeking input from students, faculty and alumni on whether it and another controversial event, previously called The Queer Film Festival, should be allowed at all.

It's a discussion more Catholic universities are having as "The Vagina Monologues" becomes a seemingly unsolvable dilemma for the schools. Allow the performance and they are criticized for going against church teachings. Ban the play and they're accused of stifling academic freedom.

"When you put Catholic university in your title and your Web site looks like the 'Bells of St. Mary's,' you set up an image that students expect," said Malcolm A. Kline, executive director of Accuracy in Academia, a nonprofit watchdog group based in Washington, D.C.

Lecturer speaks about 17th century protest literature

by Alex Morgan '09
News Writer

Harvard graduate student and teaching fellow Ken Hiltner recently gave a lecture entitled "Environmental Protest Literature in 17th Century England." Hiltner covered early environmental protest movements in England. The lecture was sponsored by the English Department, the Medieval and Renaissance Studies Program and the Environmental Studies Program.

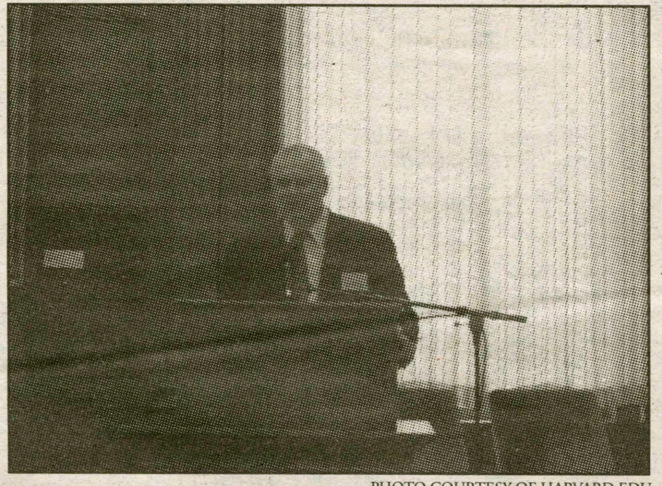

PHOTO COURTESY OF HARVARD.EDU

Ken Hiltner spoke at Hamilton on Wednesday about environmentalism in the 17th Century.

Hiltner began his lecture by discussing the 17th century political group the Levellers. Although the Oxford English Dictionary does not associate the word "leveller" prior to 1644 with a political group, and experts believe the term dates to the 1640s, Hiltner asserted that radical political protestors were referred to as levelers in 1607. He also disproved the notion that the group got its name from its enemies and claimed that the group also used the term.

During its period of active protest, the group also acquired the name "Diggers." The group wanted to destroy all social distinctions and claims to land by preserving land in its natural state. "The 1607 Levellers and Diggers were so named because they were literally intent, through digging, on leveling the ditches which both marked and drained recently enclosed land," said Hiltner.

The Levellers and Diggers wanted to change patterns of land use. England's Midlands supported the local economy through the production of a wide variety of crops. Wealthy landowners wished to convert this land to pasture, a move that the protesters believed would lead to crop failure and the destruction of the local economy.

Hiltner spoke about the fenland rioters of 1620s, 30s, and 40s for the remainder of the lecture. These protestors were also opposed to changes in land use. "The central issue for the fenlanders was that much of what was increasingly being characterized as marginal and waste commons actually provided a bounty of goods for nearby populations," said Hiltner.

The fenlands, or wetland areas of England, provided reeds for thatching, pasture for livestock to graze on, excellent fishing and hunting and dozens of other resources that could be sold for profit. Major changes in the ecosystem might have destroyed all of these resources.

Hiltner cited the fenlanders' concern for the environment as evidence against the common belief that ecological conciousness did not develop until the 19th century in Europe. "If we look to England's fenlanders in the first half of the 17th century, it becomes clear that they were developing a number of very modern environmental positions," said Hiltner.

While texts in the Middle Ages noted the fertility of the fenlands, by the 17th century rising population and cultural shifts created a series of movements to reclaim what was considered unproductive land.

"Undertakers" were employed by the English government to drain the fenlands so that they could be converted to private use. The fenlanders rioted when drainage of the fenlands gained momentum under Charles I.

Proponents of draining the fenlands justified destroying the ecosystem because they believed that unpredictable flooding made it difficult to hunt game birds. Hiltner believes that this argument is false because hunting was possible in the fens even though there were frequent floods.

Pro-drainage supporters also believed that crops and livestock introduced to the fenlands would be more profitable than what was already there. The supporters considered the poor farmers already living there to be beggars and believed that drainage would force these people to find better employment. However, according to Hiltner "Not only were the drainage efforts often unsuccessful, but flooding continued in different areas."

Hiltner explained that the fenland debate was one of the causes of the English Civil War. Oliver Cromwell, who led an uprising against Charles I, sided with the fenlanders. When Cromwell won the war, he turned his back on the fenlanders and continued to drain the land.

Hiltner concluded by explaining that this betrayal served to further extend the protests of the fenlanders: "The environmental debates of the 17th century would continue on for quite some time."

FebFest kicks off this weekend

by Laura Barry '09
News Writer

This Saturday, February 11, the annual weeklong FebFest tradition commences, bringing with it a whole array of new activities that are sure to brighten up the Hamilton Campus. Formerly known as the Winter Carnival before it disappeared in the mid-50s from the Hamilton scene, FebFest has become a highly anticipated tradition since its reestablishment in 2000. FebFest still continues to provide the Hamilton community with old traditional favorites that were featured during the Winter Carnival. These Winter Carnival events include sporting events, skating parties and concerts. Since FebFest's inauguration, it has provided the Hamilton Community with additional and highly enjoyable activities. Some of these newly established events are the Pizza War, The Dating Show Game, Indoor Carnival, fireworks and various tastings.

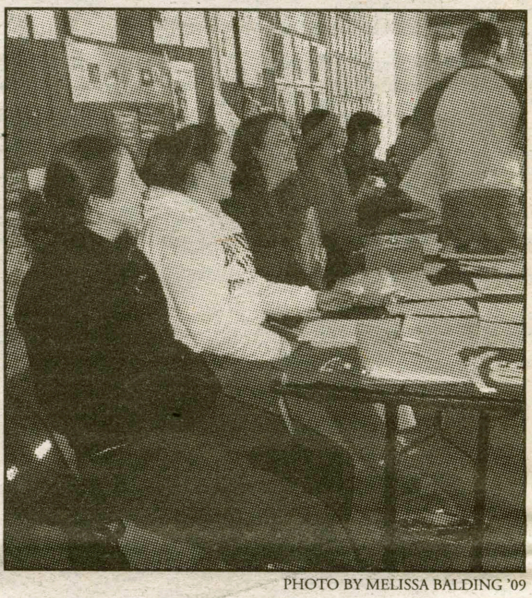

PHOTO BY MELISSA BALDING '09

Students buy buttons to get into FebFest events for free.

This year's FebFest theme is "Walley Gets Points." At every event, participants will receive a certain number of points and at the end of FebFest, the person with the greatest number of points receives a prize, most likely some type of gift certificate. Walley the Snowman, FebFest's mascot, will also partake in trying to achieve the most points possible by attending as many events as he can. The theme attempts to provide an incentive for more of the Hamilton community to participate in FebFest. As Meghan Hoover '06, FebFest core commander, explained, "My goal is for everyone to come to one event, to have everyone incorporated in FebFest."

In the past, one of the most popular events has been the Pizza War in the Annex, in which students can sample pizza from all the local pizzerias and afterwards vote on their favorite pizzeria. Last year eighty pizzas were delivered and they were devoured in only 25 minutes. As Hoover declared, "It was

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Town-Gown fund awards more than $34,000 in grants

by Meredith Kennedy '09
News Writer

Six years ago, Hamilton College's Town Gown Fund Committee was initiated by several anonymous donors to provide financial support to the Clinton and Kirkland communities' educational and non-profit organizations. This year, the committee awarded six grants, totaling $34,020, to cultural and public safety organizations in Kirkland.

The primary objective of the committee, which is chaired by President Joan Hinde Stewart, is to "promote further partnerships and improve communication between the college and the community," says Dick Tantillo, Hamilton's vice-president for Communications and Development. Mike Debraggio, the college's executive director of communications, adds that, "I think that's happening." The organizations and institutions that are granted money are advantageous to the community, and so the grant provides them with necessary funds.

The committee, which consists of President Stewart and faculty appointed by her, meets several times a year to call for proposals from potential recipients in neighboring communities. They identify organizations they want to potentially fund and ask them to prepare a grant proposal. Tantillo noted that it is not an open fund, meaning that local businesses, organizations and institutions cannot apply for a grant; they must be chosen.

Since its establishment in 2001, the fund has disbursed over $118,000 in grants. This year, Debraggio claims, "the Committee decided it wanted to give larger grants to fewer organizations." This is evident in the fund's grant to Clinton Central School District, which was awarded $16,000 to renovate and refurbish the elementary school playground. According to Debraggio, "that single grant was more than any grants we awarded since 2001." The second largest grant was $7,800 to the Kirkland Police Department in 2002.

The Town Gown Fund endowment has approximately $750,000, with a goal to reach $1 million as part of the Excelsior Campaign within the next few years; so the fund will have $50,000 a year to award to local organizations. With a growing number of supporters, including alumni, employees and friends of the college, the Committee is confident that this goal will be reached in the near future.

Maloney to visit

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New York; he hopes to clean up public authorities in Albany and investigate partisan gerrymandering. He also has plans to combat Medicaid fraud for working and middle class families.

On February 23 Maloney will also call into "Kuhn and Company" on WHCL, 88.7 FM for an exclusive interview. The radio show, which began this semester, is a weekly broadcast from 3-4 p.m. on Thursdays on campus radio. The show has already featured former Mayor of New York City, Ed Koch, and David Boies, Vice President Al Gore's lawyer in *Bush v. Gore*, will call in soon.

Eric Kuhn '09 will also be interviewing Maloney's competitor Mark Green, on the same show. Despite Maloney's visit to campus, Kuhn assures that he's "going to ask tough questions to both sides."

During the interview, Kuhn plans to discuss with the candidates such topics as their policies for Upstate New York, their plans to fix Albany, what they would hope to accomplish in their administration, the current administration and their qualifications. He will also be asking the candidates questions sent in by students. Students with questions are encouraged to send them ahead of time to ekuhn@hamilton.edu.

The Spectator

This past weekend, students did nearly $850 worth of damage in Milbank residence hall alone. Doors were shattered, fire alarms were ripped down and trash cans full of garbage were thoughtlessly tossed from a third story window. Not only was the home of about 150 students vandalized, but the damage became much more personal when a student was physically assaulted.

Students responded strongly to these events by giving their testimonies, eyewitness accounts and support to Campus Safety in their investigation to hold the guilty students responsible. Some students also took a more active role by sponsoring and lending their support to a petition that circulated around Milbank. The petition garnered roughly 70 signatures, including members of all four class years, several Greek societies, representatives of many organizations on campus and an alumnus. It is now up to the administration to respond to the students' concerns and take action against those responsible for the damages and violence.

While the blame certainly falls on those who committed the acts, it must be noted that the administration has not taken appropriate action in the past to protect students and ensure that such incidents to not occur. The fact that such a horrendous act of vandalism and violence happened at all is testimony to the fact that students do not fear any sort of consequences from the administration for their actions.

We appreciate the attention given to this incident by the administration thus far, however, we can't help but notice that it was only after someone was hurt that it was addressed as a serious concern. Someone should not have had to have been assaulted for people to start paying attention and students should not have had to compose and sign a formal petition to be worthy of the administration's attention. Any time a student feels threatened or disturbed enough to call Campus Safety should act as a red flag and each call needs to be dealt with professionally. It is absolutely not acceptable for members of the administration, staff and faculty to hold different groups of students to different standards and to respond in varying manners when they commit acts of violence or vandalism.

The administration now needs to do literally all in its power to find the guilty students and assure beyond a doubt that they never commit such an act again.

The Spectator

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First published as The Radiator in 1848.

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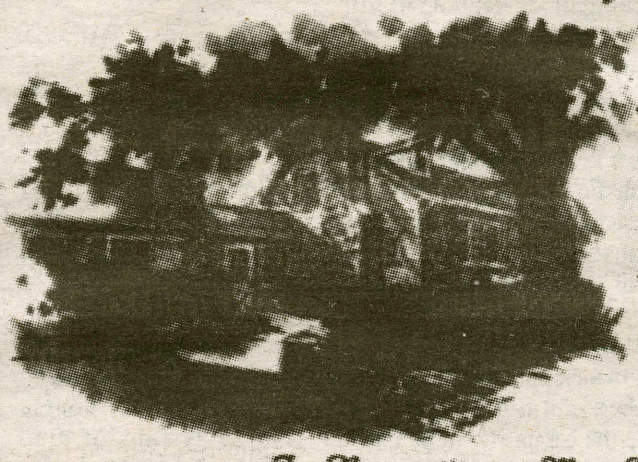

Ready for a midwinter Break? Have a friend with a birthday coming up, or just need some cheering up? The Hedges, located on a quiet side street in the village of Clinton, is the perfect escape.
The gracious and comfortable Hedges is a uniquely restored stone cottage with beautiful flower gardens and a large inground pool. There are four romantic suites tastefully decorated with period antiques and original works of art.
Breakfast is full, fresh, and delicious and served on antique china and crystal in the dining room or on the patio overlooking the gardens.

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DSL Available

Sentences of the Week

a.k.a.: Sentences I hope never to see in my papers

"The earth signifies everything."

"Through either of these ways these cultures placed a strong emphasis on this connection, which is further proved by it as echoed throughout the other aspects of their lives."

Brought to you by your friends at the Writing Center.
Call 4363 today for an appointment.

Black History Month Schedule of Events

February 8:

Movie Night

"Sankofa"

Science Center Auditorium, 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

February 11:

Valentine's Day Party

DJ Nee '05

The Little Pub, 10 p.m. - 2 a.m.

(Sponsored by BSU and The Brothers Organization)

February 22-25:

Art Exhibit Tour

Events Barn, 12 p.m. - 2 p.m.

February 25:

To Africa and Back

(A timeline of black history through music, theater and dance)

Events Barn, 6 p.m. - 8:10 p.m.

February 28:

Black Empowerment Day

Events Barn

Changes in fire code

from Fire, page 1

be avoided if at all possible: "Hamilton College has worked diligently to upgrade its fire safety detection and suppression systems. These meet and often exceed minimum fire code requirements. These systems are installed to protect building occupants, but false alarms do occur. While Physical Plant will work to ensure the mechanical and electrical portions of these systems are not the alarm source, we need your help to minimize the number of alarms caused by an activity within any of Hamilton's buildings."

Director of Campus Safety Pat Ingalls and Environmental Safety Director Brian Hansen responded to questions concerning this issue. When asked what precipitated the change in fire codes, Ingalls and Hansen stated, "The codes did not change. It was a change in how state fire officials are interpreting the code. Fire inspectors used to interpret the code very broadly, giving regulated facilities (not just academic) the capability of determining whether a fire actually existed before they were required to formally notify the FD of a fire. What precipitated this interpretive change is still not clear to the college. Suffice it to say that Hamilton and a great number of other colleges are now being held to very strict standards regarding the reporting of fire alarms, even if they are not actual fires."

When asked if they foresaw any difficulties resulting from the change, Ingalls and Hansen commented, "The biggest difficulty with this interpretive change is that Hamilton is serviced by a volunteer fire department. In fact, it would be very easy for Hamilton to just dial 911 for every fire alarm, but that could be very impactive to the village of Clinton and the rest of the region serviced by the local fire department."

In their opinion, "This change will be useful in the long run. It will force the campus to minimize the number of false alarms that occur, through improved education and awareness of alarm implications, and has resulted in a new communication system between Hamilton and the Clinton Fire Department."

Ingalls and Hansen also commented on the ongoing communication between the College and the Clinton Fire Department: "Hamilton has been in contact with the Clinton Fire Department throughout this process. While they did see this initially as having a large impact on the quality of services they provide to the community, the new communication channels between the fire department and it's largest "constituent" has resulted in an improved partnership between the two entities for all of our emergency needs."

FebFest events include some new ones and some classics

see FebFest, page 4

a huge success." Another favorite event is the beer and wine tasting in the Little Pub. Ciara Putrello from Communications & Development will lead this year's beer tasting on Tuesday, February 14, from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Hamilton Professor Steve Ellingston will guide students through an introductory course in the tasting of fine wines. In order to participate in these tastings participants need to be of legal age, and those of legal age need to sign up when purchasing buttons. Sign up sheets are out this week in Beinecke.

For the last three years the humorous Sex Matters Dating Show Game has gained a wide audience and is now supplemented with the addition of the first annual Date Auction. Volunteers are auctioned off to the highest bidder, who receives a date with cookies and hot chocolate after the auction. The Date Auction will be hosted by the former crew of WHCL's Sex Matters Show and Nick Jones. All the money raised by the auction will go towards funding Alternative Spring Break. During this year's Alternative Spring Break, Hamilton students will travel to New Orleans and Mississippi in order to aid the victims of the hurricane Katrina. If Hamilton students still would like to volunteer, they should contact Nick Jones via e-mail. As Hoover confirmed, "Anyone who is interested is welcome to e-mail, the more the merrier."

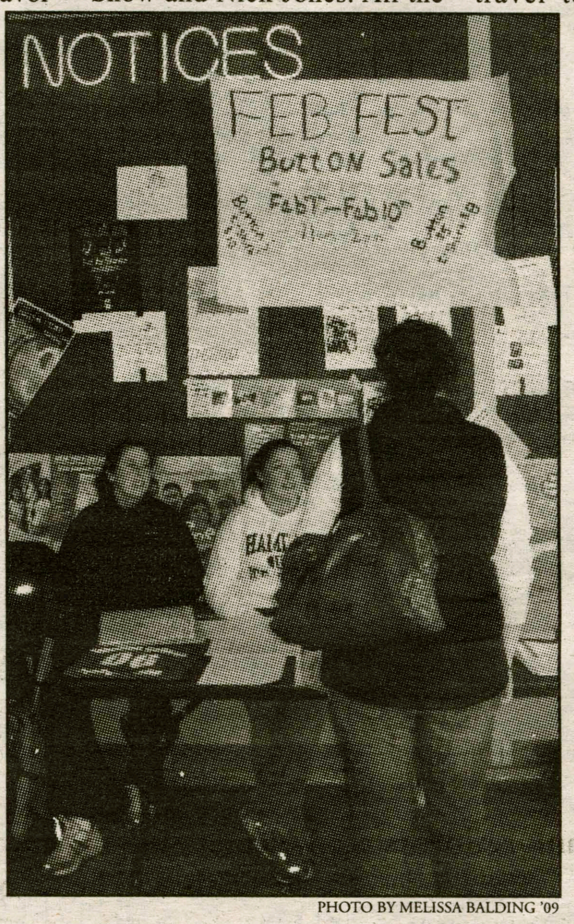

PHOTO BY MELISSA BALDING '09

The FebFest committee sold event buttons in Beineke this week.

FebFest is a wonderful tradition in which the Hamilton community can get together for a week, relax and celebrate. There are many wonderful events provided by Febfest so be sure to take advantage of them. In order to continue the FebFest tradition, much support is needed from the Hamilton community, so go out and buy a button or at least take part in one event. FebFest is sure to be a great time and a way to bond with your fellow Hamilton students.

Important Dates For SENIORS

Senior Gift 75% Deadline – March 3rd

Trustee Reception for Senior Class – March 3rd, 6 p.m. in the Hub

Senior Gift 90% Deadline – April 20

- **CONGRATULATIONS!** We blew past our 50% participation deadline on December 9 (achieving an unprecedented 60% participation before the second semester) and have now earned a total of $3,000 in challenge money from the Trustees. When we reach **75% participation by March 3rd**, we will receive ***another $3,000*** in trustee challenge money.
- Remember that you may make a donation in honor of someone who has made an impact on your Hamilton experience: a faculty member, family member, administrator or peer.
- If you don't want to contribute to the gift – give to the Annual Fund. It will still help us towards our 100% participation goal.
- It's easy to make your gift: E-mail us to (srgift@hamilton.edu) find a Senior Gift Committee representative in person or do it on-line, TODAY: **https://www.hamilton.edu/makeagift/.**

Senior Campaign 2006
Class of 2006 Internship Fund

An e-mail from Assistant Director of Residential Life for the South Side of Campus Travis Hill was sent on Thursday afternoon stating the following:

There will be a

Milbank Town Hall meeting on Monday, February 13 at 8 p.m. in the Red Pit

Topics of conversation will include:

Damage and vandalism
Noise and possible quiet hours
Other concerns

All Milbank residents are welcome, but at at least one representative from every suite is strongly urged to attend. This will be an opportunity to voice your concerns.

Dear Hamilton Helper

by Becca Griffith '09
Insights and Ideas Writer

Dear Hamilton Helper,
A guy that lives in our dorm always goes to the bathroom with the stall door open. My dorm-mates and I have asked him to shut the door, and yet he keeps doing it. It's really awkward to go into the bathroom to brush your teeth and catch a reflection in the mirror of him peeing with the door open. How can we get him to stop?

~ Bothered Bathroomer

Dear Bothered,
Try having some of your friends mention to this guy that you'd like him to keep the stall door closed. Maybe if enough people tell him he'll start to listen. If that doesn't work, then you should just make the cleaning lady or some other older women go in. Maybe that'll be uncomfortable enough for him to wise up.

Don't take it personally

by Jesse Gaylord '06
Insights & Ideas Writer

Another week, another person who says that Thumbs Up/Thumbs Down has gone too far and is destroying the moral fabric of Hamilton College.

As the old saying goes, "if only I had a nickel for every time someone complained to me about how they didn't like the column, I'd be a rich man."

Last week's letter to the editor from Ben Critton was a well constructed argument and I respect his position, but I am compelled to respond.

Ben's objection was to a Thumbs Down I wrote which said: "New Mid East Commons food part of admission's secret plan to attract terrorists to Hamilton." Ben stated that I had crossed a line because I had stereotyped an entire culture, over 400 million people, as being terrorists.

As a result, he concluded that the joke was in poor taste and was very different from the usual jokes about the ice cream in Commons. While we have been taught that it is morally "wrong" to poke fun at people, week after week students laugh at Thumbs Up/Thumbs Down's tongue and cheek humor.

I contend that at its foundation, there is no difference between the Thumbs Down in question and any other joke in the column which pokes fun at a stereotype.

I think the criticism of the Thumbs Down is the result of a highly politically correct culture in which everyone treads very lightly around "hot-button" issues. They are afraid that if they make fun of someone of a different race, background or gender, the academic community will outcast them.

Yet while we rarely hear un-PC thoughts at Hamilton, think for a minute how many un-PC thoughts you have while walking around campus. Did you ever get on a subway and see someone of a different race and become scared? Did you ever change seats on a subway car or bus because you saw someone that seemed poor or homeless and you didn't want to be associated with them? Did you think someone involved in a campus group was doing something stupid yet you thought you might be outcast if you said anything about it?

> "It is not possible to write a humorous, witty Thumbs Up/Thumbs Down week after week without offending some member of the campus community."

I am positive that everyone either has un-PC thoughts themselves and sometimes shares these thoughts with their close friends. What Thumbs Up/Thumbs Down does is write those thoughts down.

Let me give you some other things to think about. Have you ever been offended watching "The Chapelle Show"? Have you ever been offended when Bill O'Reilly speaks about terrorists? What about the *NY Times* Op-Ed? "The Daily Show"? *Newsweek*'s Conventional Wisdom (The TU/TD of the popular press)? These programs contain offensive material every week without heavy scrutiny.

What makes them different than Thumbs Up/Thumbs Down? Students laugh at Jon Stewart every night in their dorm room, yet when similar material appears in our small college newspaper, students are up in arms.

I am also surprised at the number of emails I get every week from people who think I go overboard, yet were ardent supporters of Ward Churchill coming to speak. In Ward's scenario, it is OK to call the people who died on 9/11 "little Eichmans" a Nazi reference, but it is not ok for me to make jokes about anyone other than people who are white, male and upper class. How is that for free speech?

My jokes are not meant to be malicious, but are almost always inherently offensive to at least one group of students at Hamilton. It is not possible for everyone to be in the majority.

Without fail, these jokes alienate a specific group of students every week. Students have no problems laughing at jokes when they are not personally offended (even if the jokes offend other students), but suddenly become defensive and hostile when jokes target them.

For the record, I try to write an "equal opportunity" column. Contrary to some people's beliefs, I do not pick specific groups and continually blast them. In fact, I regularly make fun of groups that I am involved in. (If you still aren't convinced, I have kept a copy of every *Spectator* from the past year and a half.)

I encourage comments and constructive criticism about my column, but I am frustrated with people's selective responses. I do, however, request that you remain consistent in your principles and criticisms.

Thumbs Up/Thumbs down is funny because it takes a stance – it does not remain indifferent. Consequently, it is not possible to write a humorous, witty Thumbs Up/Thumbs Down week after week without offending some member of the campus community. As much as we all try to be politically correct, we continue to laugh at programs such as "The Daily Show," "South Park," etc. that persistently make racist, sexist, and classist jokes.

Moreover, the Thumbs Down in question was an attempt to satirize the "Homeland Security Red Advisory Level" world in which we live. I find the stereotyping of Middle Eastern people as terrorists to be a product of a biased government, not a funny racist joke. Perhaps you all should develop an appreciation of subtly nuanced humor (i.e. read between the lines) before you point fingers at me.

Thumbs up	Thumbs down	Who cares
- Healthy Mass Debating on Thumbs Down Content	- Homework	- Greek Life
- Magic Fridges	- Cold Weather	- Feb Fest
- Pub Lunch	- Senior Girls	- Senior Portraits
- Having a Car on Campus	- Exams	- Campus Safety
- Freshman Girls	- Cell Phones in Class	-This column when you don't make fun of people
-Beer Parties	- Points System	
-Hook-Ups	- Alarm Clocks	

by Jesse Gaylord '06, Daniel Horowitz '06, and "Bad Ax" Arnold '06

Transcript: Ed Koch interview on WHCL Radio

by Eric Kuhn '09
Insights and Ideas Editor

He was the three term mayor of New York City...and well... he is the KING of New York City. Ed Koch spoke with me on WHCL Radio 88.7FM last Thursday. Here is part of our conversation:

Kuhn: In March 2005 you sent Senator Clinton a check and said "I'm a supporter of her, not only for the Senate, I'm supporting her for President." This week CNN/Gallup/USA Today poll found that 51% of Americans definitely would not vote for the Senator and a mere 16% said they would definitely vote for her. Mr. Mayor, in today's climate, can a New Yorker survive in a national election?

Koch: I think that's the feelings about Hillary at this moment in time and I having been in 23 elections in my brief life in public service and politics; I know that things can change on a dime. So while I believe at this particular moment she will most likely be the democratic candidate, and if the votes were held currently, she would lose to the Republican. But that can change.

Kuhn: Do you believe New Yorkers tap to a different rhythm than the rest of the nation?

Koch: Well, not just New York. Berkeley is probably even more bizarre. But we are as a state, primarily as a city, far more left, more liberal, than most blue states that supported the Democratic Party.

Kuhn: On Fox News you said, "I am a liberal with sanity. I call the shots as I see them on the merits." How do you feel about the current state of the Democratic Party?

Koch: Terrible!

Kuhn: So what can the Democrats do to regain Washington?

Koch: Well they have to do several things. One is change the leadership from Kennedy and Howard Dean and Kerry to a more moderate leadership. I believe that is essential, because I don't follow their leadership and I think I am a very good Democrat. The second thing is to run on the issues that people respect. We have the best side for those issues that would be Social Security, fair taxes, Medicare, Medicaid. The social issues that effect people in their lives and in their pockets and the Democratic Party, because of their record, is far to be preferred over the Republicans.

Kuhn: In 2004 you supported Bush on the issue of terrorism. Was it worth electing Bush into office, even though he is not supportive to many of your views such as same-sex marriage, the economy and environment?

Koch: Absolutely! I said all the other domestic issues where I disagree with him...were all trumped by the single overriding issue of dealing with international terrorism. The Democratic Party simply didn't appreciate how important that issue was. This is a war of civilizations and I don't believe the Democratic Party leadership understands that concept, and the Republicans do.

Kuhn: The country is in a pulverized state: Red and Blue. And then there is Ed Koch who endorses Bloomberg, Spitzer, Pataki, Hillary. Do you believe more non-partisan people are needed in Washington?

Koch: I'm a Democrat. I'm a good Democrat and if the candidates are roughly equal I will take the Democrats every time. If the candidate running against the Democrat is far and away better...I have no hesitation crossing party lines.

Kuhn: Iran is becoming a huge threat. Their new President, who won with 60 percent of the popular vote, called for an end to relations with the U.S., for Israel to be "wiped off the map," is believed to be developing nuclear weapons and says the Nazi Holocaust was a "myth." Now our hands are tied in Iraq, should we have gone into Iran instead? Was Iraq a mistake?

Koch: There is no sense in "should we this, should we that." We were right to go into Iraq based on the information provided by every secret service agency in the world providing information to its respected government. Even Syria voted for war against Iraq and Saddam Hussein at the security counsel.

Kuhn: As you know, Hamas recently won in Palestinian elections. [Former President] Clinton said on January 31 "one of the politically correct things in American politics is we just don't talk with some people we don't like, particularly if they kill people in the way we hate." He is saying we should now compromise...

Koch: I haven't heard Clinton say we should compromise with Hamas and if he did say that I would be shocked and would certainly repudiate that statement. That is why I like the President, who makes it very clear that the United States would not negotiate with terrorists, and that includes, says he, Hamas. I believe that Europe will capitulate and provide Hamas with money, even though they say, near unanimously, they will not negotiate with Hamas and make payments towards the government unless it repudiates its statements against Israel and its threats of war against Israel.

Kuhn: Well, Clinton says we should at least start talking with them –

Koch: I have not heard him say that so I am not going to concede it. If you've seen it –

Kuhn: Yeah, he said: "You've got to find a way to at least open doors and I don't see how we can do that without more contact." He said that at the World Economics Forum.

Koch: Well if he said that I am shocked and I certainly don't agree with him.

Kuhn: Do you believe it is worth giving up some of our civil liberties for a safer union [in regard to the wire tappings]?

PHOTO COURTESY OF ED KOCH

Ed Koch, fomer mayor of New York City.

Koch: Of course! What are we giving up? One of the parties on the phone has to be outside the country. If someone from abroad, who is suspected of being involved in terrorism has a conversation with someone in the United States, the President says he has a right under the Constitution and under legislation the Congress has provided, which some members of Congress dispute, to have that conversation monitored by the National Security Agency. If people believe he doesn't have a right, take it to court! What is his motivation? Does he want to hear a telephone call between two people that is going to thrill him? He says, and I believe him, he wants to take whatever measures he thinks are needed to protect the American public.

Kuhn: In December you will turn 82. You are a partner at a law firm, write weekly political columns are a commentator for Bloomberg Television, and write film, book, restaurant and movie reviews. What's the trick and what is next for the Koch?

Koch: I think it is DNA. I get up at 5:00 every morning seven days a week. My father used to get up at 4:00 every morning. So, its DNA. I think the brain is like a muscle. You don't exercise it, it gets flabby. So I have a full schedule, I hope I continue that until I die. I wouldn't mind dying at my desk! I hope I have eight or nine years left and I am enjoying my life.

Kuhn: The Mayor of New York deals with five boroughs who all think they are forgotten about, you deal with unions, the extreme wealthy, the extreme poor, and you even suffered from a stroke in office and then later a minor heart attack. You have been a public servant to the City of New York your whole life. What do you hope your legacy will be?

Koch: Well I think people will recall...that I brought a spirit back to New York City that was missing for 15 to 20 years. People were ashamed how low we had fallen in the esteem to our fellow citizens elsewhere. I balanced the budget. I removed all politics and patronage from the court system over which the mayor has control...and I [funded] 150 thousand dollars for affordable housing.

Kuhn: You are as much a part of New York as Yankee Stadium, the Grand Concourse, the 59th Street Bridge, The Statan Island Ferry and a Biali from Brooklyn. Mr. Mayor, could you imagine yourself at home anywhere else?

Koch: No. Every place else is a nice place to visit. I have been to a lot of foreign countries, I've been to a lot of states... and I am happy to get home every time.

Kuhn: Before you go, you review movies...have you seen a good move recently?

Koch: But the two best movies today are one, the gay cowboy movie..."Brokeback Mountatin." Superb. The acting, the story, superb. And the other, just by chance happens to be a movie on transexuals that is just extrodinary. It's an Irish moive called "Breakfast on Pluto."

Kuhn: And when you go out, where is the number one place to eat in the city?

Koch: Well the number one place to eat, but it is so expensive I don't go very often (it's about 100 bucks per each person) is called Il Mulino in West 3rd Street in the Village. But a more modest place to go would be Trattoria del Arte. The food is superb!

***

If you would like to receive commentary & movie reviews from Mayor Ed Koch, e-mail him at eikoch@bryancave.com and put "Please Send Commentary" in the subject.

Left! Right! Hamilton, let's fight!

This week's topic: Eminent Domain

by Colin Forwood '09
Insights & Ideas Contributor

Eminent domain is the power given to the government to take real estate for public use without the owners consent. Typically, this power is used to make way for roads, parks, or municipal buildings, and the owner of the property must always be compensated for seized property with the monetary equivalent of the property's value.

The Fifth Amendment to the Constitution outlines the definition of eminent domain in the last clause, "…nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation."

The recent clarification of the definition of "public use" in a June 2005 U.S. Supreme Court decision on the *Kelo vs. New London* case has caused widespread controversy and much new legislation to prevent abuses of the law. The court upheld the city of New London's law that allowed the city to use eminent domain to revitalize the city economically, because doing so benefited the public and therefore constituted as public use.

Because the land being taken under eminent domain was reasonably necessary to the city's plan for revitalization, the city had a good motive to forcibly buy the land. The key disturbing factor was that the city's plan involved selling some land to private real estate companies for them to develop and sell to businesses. The state then becomes an unstoppable medium for the transfer of property from one owner to another, as long as the result shows to benefit the public sufficiently.

There was no relationship found between the companies that stood to gain from the development plan and the government of the city, but the fact that the precedent has been set for cities to take land from one owner and hand it to another for the purpose of creating economic growth suggests the increased potential for corruption. This is probably the most disturbing opportunity for abuse of this law, but what strikes me about the core aversion from the eminent domain law is its violation of the sanctity of personal property. Before, the land taken from a person went directly to everyone's use, while now, although the land is still 'used' by the public or for the public good, the control of the property is theoretically in someone else's control. Although disturbing, the overall idea of trading stability for growth makes sense. And even if there is the risk of abuse, there is also a much greater potential for revitalizing and improving cities, and improving peoples lives by doing so. It is therefore in the public's best interest to support the use of eminent domain according to this new precedent, but there is a need to preserve some stability.

The stability that needs preservation is not the obsolete and misguided ideology of sanctity of private property.

Instead, it is the stability of local democratic control over the destination of economic growth and municipal development. Communication and cooperation between the government and the people of a city is what allows works for the public good to truly serve the public well.

Instead of concentrating on the utilitarian practical side of economic development, there also needs to be a reflection of the values of the local population in the selection of businesses and economic practices to be supported by a city. Due to the complexity of the matter of eminent domain, there ought to be particular care in using it, and public opinion reflects that well. The U.S. system of justice has prevented abuse so far and new state legislature will prevent abuse in the future.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE INSTUITE OF JUSTICE

Susette Kelo, the main litigant who sued the City of New London

by Lorraine Sperling '08
Insights & Ideas Writer

In the case of *Kelo v. New London*, the New London, Connecticut city council aimed to transfer fifteen properties owned privately by nine petitioners over to private developers and commercial interests. The city's goal was to "revitalize an economically distressed" community by "[creating] an excess of 1,000 jobs, [and increasing] tax and other revenues," according to the Supreme Court of Connecticut. Initially, the city offered to negotiate purchase prices with private owners, and many owners agreed to sell. However, when the council was denied the aforementioned fifteen properties needed to complete the project, it sought to exercise its right of eminent domain by seizing the private properties in question for "public use," a right granted in the takings clause of the Fifth Amendment. Yet, the question arises as to whether economic development can be considered a "public use" for which state and local governments are justified in seizing private property.

The U.S. Supreme Court relied heavily on precedent in its majority opinion supporting the city council's right of eminent domain, and the Court expanded the notion of "public use" to include "public purpose." Justice Stevens delivered the opinion of the court: "While many state courts in the mid-19th century endorsed 'use by the public' as the proper definition of public use, that narrow view steadily eroded over time. Not only was the 'use by the public' test difficult to administer (*e.g.*, what proportion of the public need have access to the property? At what price?), but it proved to be impractical given the diverse and always evolving needs of society." Accordingly, Stevens argued, the Court chose to interpret the spirit of the law so as to include the broader notion of "public purpose." One can understand "public purpose" to mean "general welfare," since the two terms are identical in meaning and effect. However, as Justice Thomas points out in his dissent, the framers use the term "general welfare" elsewhere in the Constitution. Had the framers intended for the spirit of the phrase "general welfare" to apply in the case of the Fifth Amendment takings clause, they would have used that term, precisely, as they had elsewhere in the document. However, they did not.

Since the framers demonstrated an understanding of the notion of "general welfare" ("public purpose"), and also demonstrated an understanding of the distinction between the two terms "general welfare" and "public use" by virtue of the fact that the terms were not used interchangeably, an honest reading of the document could allow for no other interpretation of the takings clause than that which favors the stricter notion of "public use" as "use by the public." Accordingly, since economic development does not suffice as a "use by the public," but rather is an example of a "public purpose" meant to serve the "general welfare," the City Council of New London was not constitutionally justified in its use of eminent domain.

With regard to Stevens' judicial flexibility in light of "the diverse and always evolving needs of society," I am moved to ask whether upholding the institution of private property is a desirable end, above and not entirely apart from "the always evolving needs of society." Among the needs of society, is there not the need to maintain a legal and political framework that protects the right of individuals to own things privately, without fear of seizure from the government or other private parties? Is not allowing for such takings in violation of the traditional definition of justice, *suum cuique*, or "to each his own?" Unfortunately, the majority of the Court appeared to believe otherwise.

Beyond the legal and political consequences of the issue, it is important to note the economic consequences, as well. Those who defend the use of eminent domain in New London by pointing out that homeowners receive "just compensation" for the property, forget that value in private markets is determined by numerous factors beyond market value alone. University of Chicago Law School Professor Richard Posner explains: "When the government does take property by eminent domain, it has to pay the owner the market value of the property, but that value will be less than the owner values the property—otherwise [the owner] would sell it to the government at market value and there would be no need for the government to incur the cost of eminent domain proceedings." In other words, if owners considered market value to be "just compensation," they would sell voluntarily and the result would be a mutually beneficial exchange. The fact that owners were unwilling to sell at the market price reveals that the value of the property to the owners exceeded that of the market. Therefore, mandatory sale at market value does not constitute "just compensation," rather it is unjust insofar as it prohibits a mutually beneficial exchange.

In short, the power of eminent domain bestowed upon state and local governments in *Kelo v. New London* is fundamentally unjust: legally, politically and economically. The Court is erroneous in its interpretation of the takings clause and, as Justice O'Connor and Thomas concur, its reasoning in this case has effectively erased the "public use" clause altogether from the Fifth Amendment. Without a doubt, *Kelo v. New London* has ushered in a frightening era for the institutions of private property and market freedom in America.

Bush follows law when convenient

By Jon Kuhl '06
Senior Editor

I am so sick of listening to the Bush administration use the war on terrorism to justify their arrogant abuses of power. The latest is their insistence on bypassing the legal procedures set up to protect Americans from being illegally spied on by the government.

To give some background, Congress passed the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) in 1978 to stop the government from eavesdropping on Americans without warrants. It was widely reported at the time that various agencies within the government were not only spying on people who were breaking laws, but also on people who were not breaking laws, like civil rights leaders.

Now, almost 30 years later, we find ourselves in a very similar situation. The Bush administration claims that it needs to spy on Americans who are suspected of talking with terrorists – someone in Idaho calling a suspected terrorist in Iran – in order to prevent terrorist attacks in the United States. Okay, fair enough. Certainly everyone wants the government to protect us from terrorist attacks. The problem is the way the Bush administration is insisting on doing this.

Under FISA, the government may go to a special secret court, ask for a warrant to spy on someone inside the U.S. and then, if given approval, begin secretly spying on this person. FISA even stipulates that in emergency cases, if the Attorney General determines that a particular case meets the FISA requirements, the government may begin spying for up to 72 hours before bringing the case to the FISA court for approval. But, we're now told, President Bush didn't think this was good enough, so he went ahead and ignored the FISA procedures in a classified number of instances.

On Monday, Attorney General Alberto Gonzales testified before the Senate Judiciary Committee on this very subject. He claims that government intelligence officers, not judges, are the ones who should determine whether or not the government can spy on someone. If, he says, "intelligence officers had to navigate through the FISA process for each of these intercepts, that would necessarily introduce a significant factor of delay, and there would be critical holes in our early warning system." So, what he's basically saying is that yes, there is a law here, but it takes too long to follow, so we're going to ignore it.

This is absolutely unacceptable. The Bush administration has no right, and they know it (it wasn't even public until the *New York Times* broke the story), to spy on Americans without warrants. Our government should be eavesdropping on terrorists, even if they are Americans, but only after they have a warrant. And as long as the people we're spying on are terrorists, there shouldn't be any problems getting a warrant. Otherwise, we leave the door open for the government to spy on whomever they want, whenever they want, with nothing to stop them.

As if this isn't enough, the Bush administration is bringing out its favorite weapon against the people who disagree with their policies: saying that they're undermining the war on terrorism. I'm with Senator Hillary Clinton on this one, who asked in a speech yesterday, "Since when has it been part of American patriotism to keep our mouths shut?" Of course it's not unpatriotic to question our leaders, especially when they're breaking the very laws we created.

The forgotten veterans

by Chris Bouton '09
Insights & Ideas Writer

On March 20, 2003 American and British forces crossed into Iraqi territory, and the conflict we currently identify as the Iraq War began. Since then 2,241 Americans have died and 16,548 have been wounded. The number of Iraqis killed in the conflict is unknown; estimates vary wildly, but the British medical journal *Lancet* estimates about 100,000 Iraqi dead.

Between 2002 and 2005, 19,000 veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan were treated at veterans' medical centers and hospitals for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). According to the National Center for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (a sub-division of Department of Veterans Affairs), "About 30 percent of the men and women who have spent time in war zones experience PTSD. An additional 20 to 25 percent have had partial PTSD at some point in their lives."

PHOTO COURTESY OF LOS ANGELES TIMES / LUIS SINCO VIA AP

James Blake Miller, a.k.a. Marlboro Man.

One such veteran with PTSD is twenty one year old James Blake Miller. The photograph of Miller's dirty face with a Marlboro cigarette hanging from his mouth came to symbolize the U.S. military's retaking of Fallujah in 2004. Miller told his life story in a January 29, 2006 article in the *San Francisco Chronicle*.

Miller was born in Pike County, Kentucky (average income $24,000)and joined the Marines at the age of 18. He joined for the usual reasons: money for college, insurance and a chance to get his auto-body repair certification for free.

Four months in, the war in Iraq broke out and Miller and his unit, the 1st Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment of the 2nd Marine Division went into combat. After serving in the relatively stable Anbar province in western Iraq, Miller and his unit were called on to help subdue Fallujah, the hot-bed of the Iraqi insurgency. During the assault on the city, Miller came under fire while on the rooftop of a building and guided two tanks to destroy the house where the fire came from. A *Los Angeles Times* photographer snapped the famous picture right after the tanks reduced the house to rubble.

After returning home from Iraq, Miller was diagnosed with PTSD. His disorder did not prevent him from being reactivated in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. During Hurricane Rita, Miller and his fellow Marines rode out the storm on an amphibious ship and Miller, on his way to smoke, attacked another Marine who had made a sound similar to a rocket-propelled grenade.

In Miller's own words, "I don't remember grabbing him. I don't remember putting him against the bulkhead. I don't remember getting him down on the floor. I don't remember getting on top of him. I don't remember doing any of that s--t." Miller received an honorable discharge from the Marines on November 10, 2005.

Miller said this about how he and others handled the experiences and memories from Iraq, "People bottle it up, become angry, easily temperamental, and hell, before you know it, these are the people who are snapping on you." To which his fiancé Jessica replied, "You're already like that."

The Iraq war will be President Bush's legacy, but the death and destruction will never penetrate into his self contained bubble of reality, where a bad day consists of going to bed after 10 p.m. or being asked about the reasons for his actions. The man responsible for instigating one of the biggest and deadliest mistakes in U.S. history will not suffer a day for his acts, while the horrors of Iraq will follow men like James Miller to their graves.

The sad truth of the situation is that twenty years from now, when President Bush finally finishes reading "The Pet Goat" and Vice President Cheney lives in a fortress financed by his Halliburton profiteering, James Blake Miller will still be haunted by memories of a needless and senseless war.

Your Article Here.

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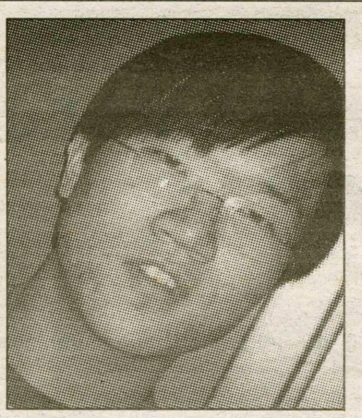
Contact Ben Noble (bnoble) & Eric Kuhn (ekuhn)



"The person should have to pay the fine themselves."
~ Yuqi Mao '09

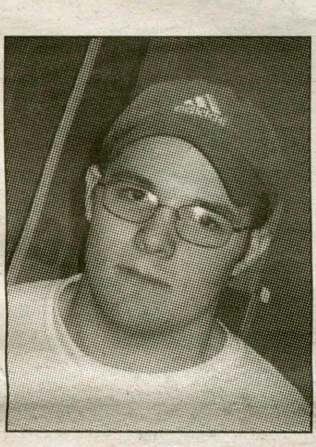
"Be sent to the bottom of the housing lottery with no chance of getting pulled in."
~ Dan Griffith '07

"Give Joan Hinde Stewart a foot massage."
~ Amy Romack '09

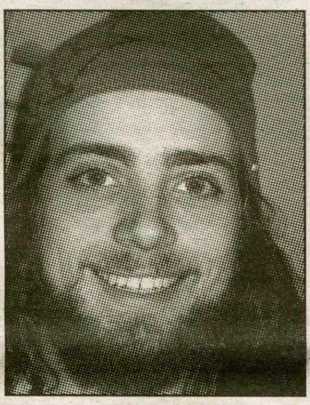
Hamilton Unscripted

This week's question:
What do you think the proper punishment for vandalism should be?

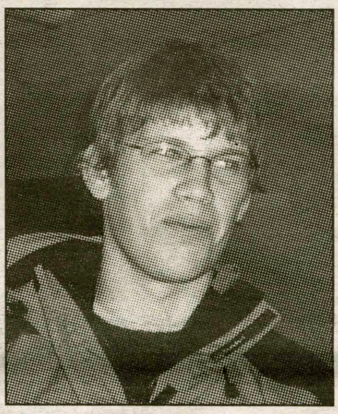
by Michelle Butler '06 & Eric Kuhn '09



"Detention."
~ Dan Seeger '06

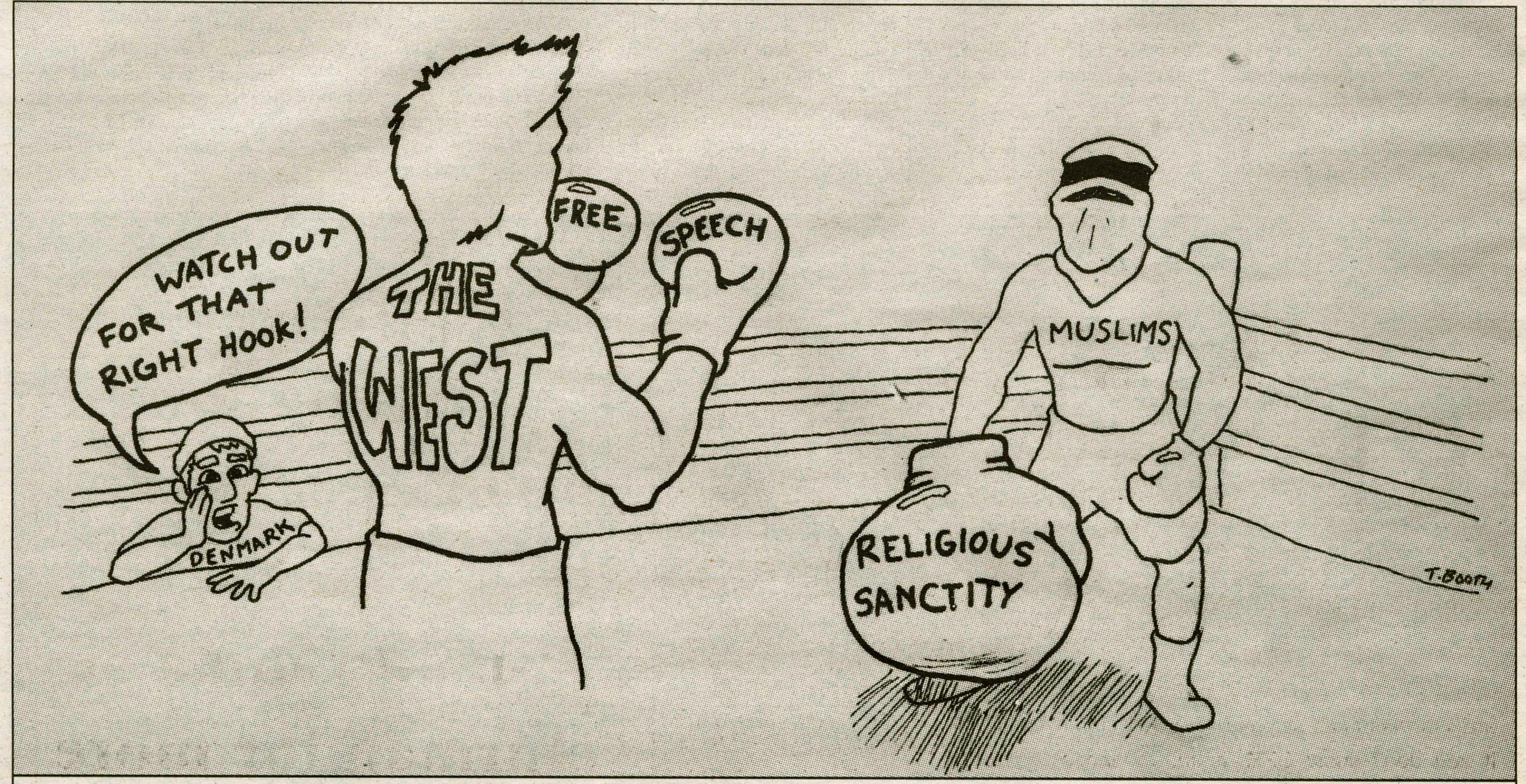


"To be tarred and feathered."
~ Andy Mention '07

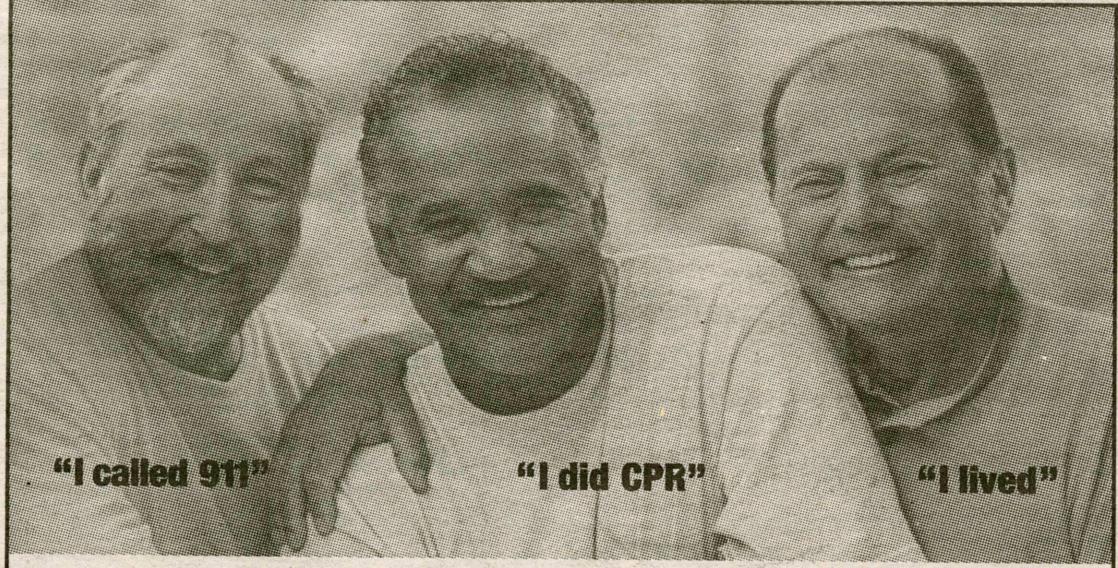


"If you get caught and you don't turn yourself in, you should be kicked out...plain and simple."
~ Andy Glossner '06

"Be a Jitney ride-along."
~ Grant McSurdy '06



by Tom Booth '06



If someone near you collapses, loses consciousness and stops breathing, chances are their heart has stopped. Call 9-1-1 immediately and do CPR until help arrives. If you don't know CPR, learn. To find a CPR course near you, call the American Heart Association at **1-877-AHA-4CPR** or visit us online at **www.americanheart.org**.

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THE SEVEN DEADLY SINS OF BAD WRITING

The Fourth Deadly Sin: Misuse of the Apostrophe

Use the apostrophe to indicate possession and to mark omitted letters in contractions. Writers often misuse apostrophes when forming plurals and possessives. The basic rule is quite simple: **use the apostrophe to indicate possession, not a plural.** Yes, the exceptions to the rule may seem confusing: *hers* has no apostrophe, and *it's* is not possessive. Nevertheless, with a small amount of attention, you can learn the rules and the exceptions of apostrophe use.

Possessives

Form the possessive case of a singular noun by adding *'s* (even if the word ends in *s*).

Hammurabi's code, Dickens's last novel, James's cello

Form the possessive case of a plural noun by adding an apostrophe after the final letter if it is an *s* or by adding *'s* if the final letter is not an *s*.

the students' disks, the children's toys

Remember: the apostrophe never designates the plural form of a noun.
A common error is the use of the apostrophe to form a non-possessive plural.

Compare the following correct sentences:

The *student's* disk was missing.
Several *students'* disks were missing.
The *students* searched for their missing disks.

Possessive pronouns, such as *yours*, *hers*, *its*, and *ours*, take no apostrophe.

The decision is yours.

Indefinite pronouns, such as *anyone, everybody, no one, somebody*, use the singular possessive form.

Somebody's dog stayed in our suite last night.

Contractions

The apostrophe is used to mark omitted letters in contractions.
(Note that contractions are often considered too informal for academic writing.)

Avoid the dreadful *it's*/*its* confusion.

It's is a contraction for *it is*. *It's* is *never* a possessive.
Its is the possessive for *it*.

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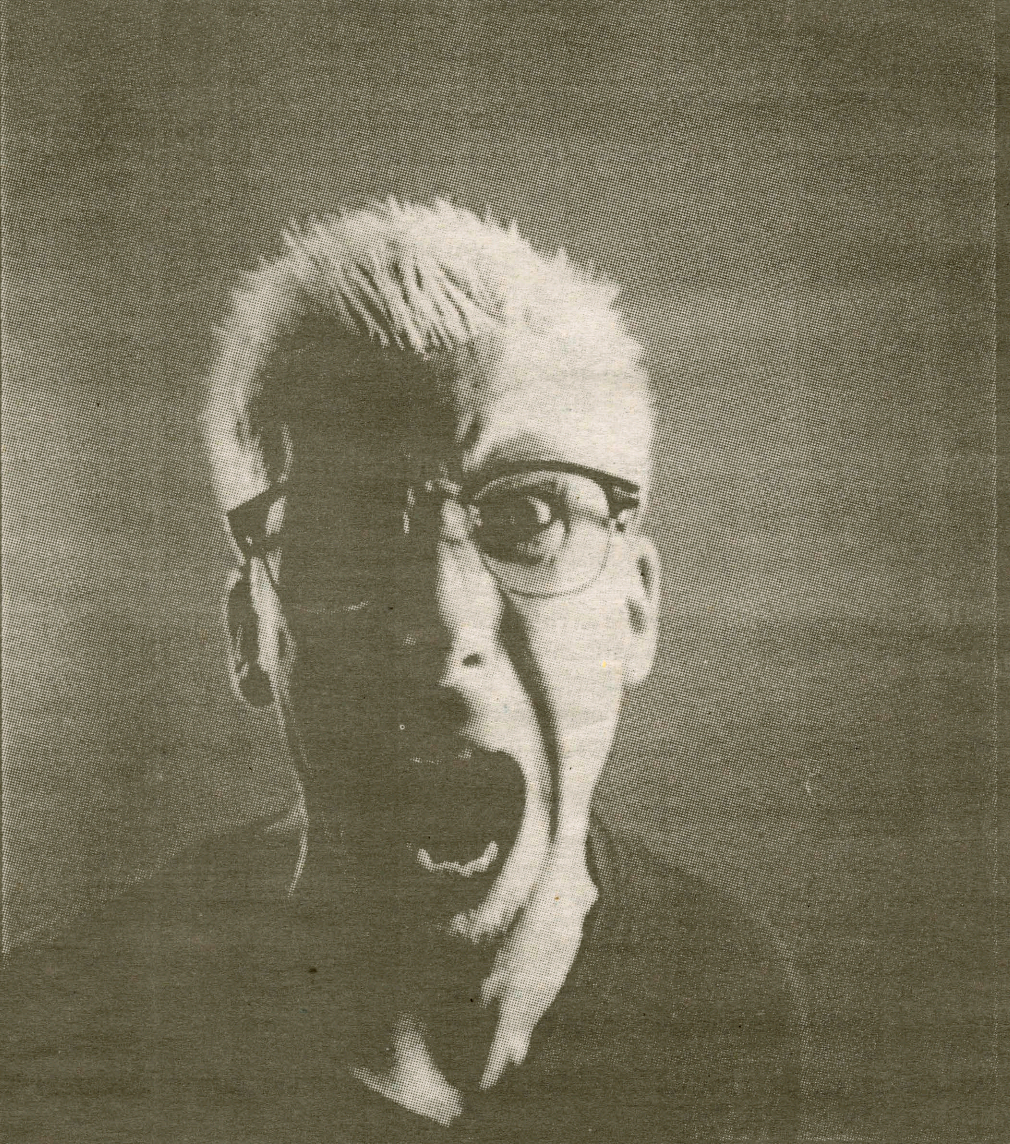

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Features

H.A.L.T.: Seniors look forward to a future with Hamilton Alumni Leaders

by Whitney Bull '06
FEATURES CONTRIBUTOR

This spring marks the Hamilton Alumni Leadership Training's eighth semester on campus. HALT, which began in the 2002 – 2003 academic year (then known as "YALP," or Young Alumni Leadership Program), is a program designed to create connections between current students and both alumni and college administrators. The program, with 32 members for the 2005 – 2006 year, also trains current students to be leaders within the Hamilton community after they graduate.

Laurie Russell, associate director of alumni programs (part of the Communications and Development Office), serves as the group's advisor. Presently, the group is only open to seniors, but Russell hopes that in the future the program will include students from all class years. Colby Bishop '06 and Lyle Trued '06 serve as this year's co-chairs of the committee. Trued commented that he saw HALT as a great way "to get more involved with the college," and also to "stay connected to the school after graduation."

Bishop added: "a large concern of mine is staying connected to the campus after I leave. Through HALT, I have learned that there are numerous ways to stay involved in the campus."

In fact, the group's mission statement echoes Bishop and Trued's comments: "To create a class leadership structure allowing committee members to be aware of how they can serve the College as alumni leadership volunteers, be active in enhancing the communication of their class among themselves and with the College and become a part of the 194 year old tradition of Hamilton philanthropy."

Russell stresses the fact the HALT, like most alumni-related associations, is driven by volunteers. For this reason, Russell, Bishop, and Trued look for hard-working committee members that are able to dedicate time to the group. Both Bishop and Trued underwent three separate interviews before being chosen as this year's leaders. Part of the responsibility of HALT leaders is to "recruit forty to fifty committee members to be a part of the HALT group." Once recruited, all potential committee members were required to submit an application along with a personal statement outlining their commitment to the college. Russell stated that she looks for candidates with "good communication skills, community involvement, interest in post-graduate involvement with the college, dedication and loyalty to Hamilton, time management skills and a strong sense of self."

Throughout year, HALT has conducted several lunch meetings, each with separate speakers. Speakers have included: Dick Tantillo, vice president of communications and development; Jon Hysell '72, director of alumni programs; Melissa Joyce-Rosen '86, president of the alumni association; Kino Ruth, director of the Career Center; Sue Donegan, associate dean of admissions and the director of WAVE; Dave Steadman '03, assistant director of alumni programs; Laurie Russell, associate director of alumni programs, Amy Hunt, associate director of alumni giving and director of reunion giving, Erika Klar, assistant director of annual giving; Zoë Baldwin '06 and Katrina Fredlund '06, Senior Gift Committee co-chairs. During HALT's meetings, members learn about each speaker's role in the Hamilton community and how it relates to alumni relations. Member Kristen Archibald '06 commented: "I like hearing about some of the things that go on behind the scenes at Hamilton."

When asked about this semester's plans, Bishop commented "so far our schedule includes a meeting with President Stewart and a Kirkland alumni/trustee of the College."

In addition to meetings on campus, this year's HALT members became the first to take the program off campus by attending the annual Alexander Hamilton Birthday Party events all over the country, including parties in Boston, New York City, Fairfield County, CT, and at the Little Pub. HALT members represent the student body at these events and offer insights on current student life to interested alumni.

HALT members do not only serve to learn about Hamilton's alumni network, but also to give feedback to administrators. For instance, HALT members were given access to HOLAC, the Hamilton College Online Alumni Community (which is presently restricted to alumni use only). Members were able to communicate with administrators about the design, functionality, and efficiency of the system. HALT members serve as a valuable link between administrators and students. Russell commented that these connections build a powerful network that proves to be extremely beneficial to students after they graduate.

Russell is also extremely impressed with the progress of the HALT program over the past four years. This year especially, she commends Bishop and Trued for their enthusiasm and commitment to creating a stronger, more visible HALT program. Over the next few years, Russell hopes that HALT will increase membership as well as create more formalized subcommittees. Bishop agreed with Russell's projection for HALT and added, "I am looking forward to our events planned for the rest of the semester."

COURTESY OF WHITNEY BULL '06

Front Row (L – R): Kristen Pinna, Molly Walther, Co-Chair Lyle Trued, Co-Chair Colby Bishop, Matt Sullivan, Jen Lattanzio. Back Row (L- R): Whitney Bull, Suzy Wilson, Alexis Castrovinci, Jessica Djilani, Ben Critton, Cambridge Peters, Tim Moyer, Brandon Long, Zoë Baldwin, Phoebe Scott, Pablo Vives, Zara Ahsanuddin, Caroline Beaudrias, Kristen Archibald. Not Pictured: Tom Booth, Katie Cameron, Matt Clausen, Katrina Fredlund, Sharon Hakim, Shauna Hirshfield, Jon Kuhl, Haley Reimbold, Danielle Roper, Liz Purchia, Evelyn Shapiro, Sarah Voigt.

Focus on Fitness: the benefits of a healthy life

by Michelle Butler '06
FEATURES WRITER

In previous weeks, I wrote about exercise as a stress relief and a way to increase longevity, whether its done at the gym, outside, or in your own room. Now I feel it is imperative to further discuss the multitude of health benefits we can garner from daily exercise. By no means do I intend to pressure or scare anyone into exercising, but I do think that this information should be taken into consideration now while we are young and have the ability to prevent as many future health problems as possible.

The short-term benefits of exercise alone should continually motivate us to stay fit. These include increased energy and stamina, improved mood, better stress control, higher self-esteem and self-image, sexual interest (though I think most Hamilton students gain this through their alcohol consumption…), deeper rest, and getting more fun out of life (http://www.pdrhealth.com).

The better in shape you are, the easier the rest of your daily activities will become. Right now in college, fitness helps you to haul all your books around with you, sprint up the stairs in your dorm, speedwalk from one side of campus to the other when the snow and wind are simply unbearable, and dance all night long at a Bundy party. Especially with additional exercise at the gym or elsewhere, a day's worth of high activity will naturally induce drowsiness and a guaranteed full night's rest.

These are benefits that you can immediately experience on a daily basis. At some point in our lives, we have all heard that exercise instantly releases endorphins, the chemical in our bodies that generates happiness and pleasure. You should feel comforted in knowing that even if nothing seems to be going well, you can still reduce your anxieties and find joy in simple activities, such as taking a walk or punching a sandbag. Fortunately, you do not necessarily have to exercise for hours at a time to feel the benefits. Some people find more time to exercise in intervals throughout the day, and they do not receive less or more benefits than those who do it all at once.

Now for the long-term benefits, which exercisers will be the most thankful for as they continue traveling further down the road in age. I will directly quote PDRhealth.com for its comprehensive list, because although I value my own wealth of knowledge about health and fitness, I would rather ensure a precise articulation of this enormously important information. Here are the long-term benefits, as listed by PDRhealth.com:

* **Heart health.** People who are physically fit are eight times less likely to die from cardiovascular disease than those who are unfit.

* **Lower blood pressure.** Regular exercise can reduce arterial blood pressure and may prevent or reduce the need for blood pressure medication.

* **Cholesterol control.** Regular exercise helps to reduce harmful LDL cholesterol and increase beneficial HDL cholesterol levels.

* **Stronger bones.** Physically active people experience less bone loss than inactive persons; the right kind of exercise fends off osteoporosis.

* **Fewer injuries.** Improved balance and agility help prevent falls.

* **Lower weight, more muscle.** Exercise can increase metabolism, allowing the body to burn calories faster, thus aiding weight control. Exercise also preserves muscle and promotes fat loss during weight reduction efforts.

* **Arthritis relief.** Keeping joints flexible and building muscle strength reduces the functional effects of arthritis and protects joints from further problems.

* **Diabetes control.** Regular exercise lowers blood sugar levels in people with adult-onset (Type II) diabetes.

* **Gastrointestinal relief.** Regular exercise helps to relieve constipation, and may be beneficial in other gastrointestinal disorders.

* **Improved circulation.** For people with varicose veins, exercise improves circulation, preventing blood from pooling in legs and easing leg spasms and fatigue.

* **Longer life.** Physical fitness reduces the risk of premature death by 53 percent in men and 98 percent in women. (http://www.pdrhealth.com)

As a life-long, seriously dedicated athlete and health nut, I was fascinated, but certainly not surprised, by these facts. Isn't it amazing that even while you and the guys play a little Frisbee on the quad, you could be helping your body fight off cardiovascular disease, diabetes, arthritis, high blood pressure and high cholesterol? Every step you take can help, so you should make daily conscious decisions that will promote your health. For example, opt to walk instead of driving, or to clean your own house rather than hiring someone to do it for you. When I need to use my car to run errands, I park far away from the store to get some more exercise.

The benefits, both short-term and long-term, are too essential to ignore, as are any positive habits you ought to substitute for unhealthy habits. One of the most important things we students tend to forget is to take care of ourselves. Pulling all-nighters seems like a good idea in times of need, but your body always hates you for it afterwards, and you definitely will not have the energy to exercise. Ever wonder why you develop a cough during exams? Our work and obligations cause stress, and in the scramble to get things done, we often forget to address it in the proper manner. However, if we keep our bodily health as a major, if not the first, priority, then we will be happier, younger, have more stamina and be more productive.

Beat the winter blues, explore Utica

by Megan Kase '09
FEATURES WRITER

In the heart of the Mohawk Valley lie the city of Utica and the town of New Hartford, both of which offer means for a sometimes necessary escape from daily campus routines. From bowling and shopping, to golf and spelunking, there is certainly something for everyone in Utica, proving the city to definitely be a diamond in the rough. In the 1800s, Utica gained prosperity through industrial development due to its proximity to the Eerie Canal. After World War II, Utica was quite the exciting place for politics due to the political dealings of Rufus Elefante and his cronies. Utica was even referred to by some as "Sin City." Though the tables have certainly turned, Utica still presents excitement in its own right through its endearing small city appeal.

For some students, a little bit of retail therapy is all it takes to unwind, which New Hartford definitely provides. Sangertown Square's close proximity to campus and practical stores make it a regular stop for Hamilton students. "Although the selection of stores is limited, I am always able to find things I need at Sangertown. Whenever I go to Target, I always do a little extra shopping there," said freshman Julia Houlden. Sangertown Square, a typical Jitney stop, is filled with stores such as Target, American Eagle and Express, and restaurants like Friendly's.

"I love making trips to Target at Sangertown Square. I somehow manage to find really cute stuff that fits my college student budget," said freshman Jerushah Ismail. Furthermore, shopping at Sangertown Square provides a familiar experience for many student shoppers.

"Sangertown Square reminds me of being in a mall back home," said junior Willie Artiles. If Sangertown Square does not satisfy one's shopping needs, the surrounding area on Commercial Drive offers a larger variety of stores, including Old Navy, Wal-Mart and Best Buy.

The Marquee Theatre in New Hartford is a Hamilton favorite and offers a taste of Hollywood's glamour in central New York. "I try to go to the Marquee Theatre at least once a month. I most recently saw 'Tristan and Isolde,' which was amazing. The Marquee Theatre is nice because it is just a 15 minute drive to see some of my favorite movie stars!" said freshman Sarah Moore.

"I am a pretty big movie buff and sometimes I get tired of watching the same old movies. I enjoy going to the Marquee Theatre to catch the newest releases. It's really nice and clean too," said freshman Anthony Carello. For those looking for an alternative movie experience, Utica offers the Uptown Theatre.

"I do not really enjoy going to huge commercial theatres so the Uptown Theatre is nice because it offers an intimate movie watching experience," said freshman Gretchen Gardner.

When the food from the dining halls becomes monotonous, some Hamilton students enjoy escaping to New Hartford and Utica to satisfy their palettes' craving. "There are a lot of good places to eat around here for a college student's budget. I really like going to Carmella's, Ruby Tuesday's, and especially Panera. You can always expect to see plenty of Hamilton students at Panera," said Houlden.

Rio Grande Tex Mex in New Hartford is another hotspot for Hamilton students. "Tex Mex is amazing! Black bean burrito is where I'll be. It's a total fiesta," said sophomore Caitlin Flynn. Some students look to dining out as a means of treating themselves.

"When I have had a hard week, I know I can always look forward to going to Outback. Those onion blossoms are a real treat," said freshman Bradley Tipper.

Some students like to partake in activities that remind them of home. "I bowled a lot back home so I really love going to the Clinton Lanes. Lately, I have been a little rusty!" said freshman Rebecca French.

Freshman Christina Matulaitis said, "Back home I used to go to this little pet shop and out for ice cream afterwards. I was so happy to find that there is a pet shop Maxxie Biggs next to Coldstone. I love spending time there!"

For those looking for a cultural experience, Utica attracts plenty of musical performances and theatre attractions. Utica's Memorial Auditorium is currently hosting the Harlem Globetrotters. "With acts like B.B. King and Trey Anastacio, it seems like Utica draws in some pretty good names," said sophomore Natalie Schwerin. Turning Stone Casino also hosts well known musical acts.

"I recently saw Rascal Flatts there. They are one of my favorite bands and it was nice to see them so close to campus," said freshman Mariana Vinacur.

Turning Stone Casino is also well known for its delicious restaurant and indulgent gaming. "I had a great time at the Turning Stone Casino. The food was delicious and I won a lot of money playing blackjack. There is also this really cool echo room there. It's just like a little piece of the Vegas strip," said freshman Tara Collins.

Utica definitely has plenty to offer if one would like to reconnect with nature. The Utica Zoo is home to more than 200 animals over 35 acres. "I really cannot wait to head over to the zoo. I hear that they are sponsoring a special exhibit Snowfari during the winter season," said freshman Danielle Alfano. The Howe Caverns, roughly an hour out of Utica, are well-renowned as premier caverns in the Northeast, making it a huge tourist attraction.

"I have visited the Howe Caverns, and it was just like Indiana Jones. The stalagmites were absolutely breaktaking," said freshman Lindsay Mahl.

Though it may seem like there is not much else but the VT and the Rock, with a little creativity, Utica and New Hartford can offer plenty of entertaining experiences.

Valentine's Day special:

Chocolate comparison, brought to you by the writer of "Where to Eat"

by Sam Gitlitz '08
FEATURES WRITER

In Honor of Valentine's Day, this week's taste test will cover what could be the most common gift given, chocolates. More than 35 million heart shaped boxes will be sold in the next few days, worldwide. Approximately 45 million dollars will be spent between gifts of chocolate and wine. There are many different chocolates out there, but most retail stores will have a few gift boxes from well known manufactures. The taste testers this week were all female, so guys take notes. The three contestants are all available at Target, and fit nicely into a student's budget: Russell Stover's Reserve Assortment, Ghirardelli's Assorted Hearts and Choxie's Valentine's Day gift box.

Russell Stover's Reserve Assortment: Probably the most commonly purchased confectioner in the country due to its availability, the "reserve" assortment is an attempt to break into the luxury market. It seems that what was reserved was the identification sheet in the packaging. We couldn't find a list of the chocolates anywhere in the box. The chocolates were either hit or miss. After biting one chocolate, Ruth Duggan '08 spit it out and said, "At the end it tasted like evil." The evil was determined to be some artificially flavored lemon or orange nougat. The chocolate itself was low quality, and to make matters worse the candies were overstuffed with cheap fillings. If somehow you forget its Valentine's Day, and find flowers then pick these up as a last resort.

Ghirardelli's Assorted Hearts: The famous San Francisco based chocolate maker's Valentine's Day special. The box itself was very appealing to the girls, and it had the most information on the delectables inside. What it lacks is assortment; there are only two types of chocolate in here, dark hearts and milk hearts. The two are stuffed differently, but aside from that there isn't much difference. Dark chocolate is supposed to be more bitter, but these were far too sweet for dark chocolate aficionados. They take a few bites each, so if you're planning a romantic evening, don't try to feed her these…she'll end up choking.

Choxie Valentine's Day Gift Box: Choxie has been getting a lot of media attention lately. It is Target's in-house brand of premium chocolate. The entire line is very cosmopolitan in appearance and flavor; they have flavors like cinnamon or toasted coconut. What is truly amazing about this box is the actual box. The box opens into a four tiered, free standing alter of chocolate. The box opened to squeals of delight as each layer unfolded, revealing four different types of chocolate. Aside from the dramatic opening, and I can't emphasize enough how great the design is, the chocolates themselves were the best. Gray Gons states, "It was the only box where I wanted to try more than one," and Halley Allaire '08 said, "Oh my god its good." The chocolates are very different: toffee sticks covered in milk chocolate, caramel and almonds in dark chocolate, dark chocolate truffles and caramel squares. The one complaint the girls had was that the ribbon didn't match the box. They recommended either taking it off or replacing it with a teal ribbon. They were also impressed with the functional packaging, insisting that it could be reused for a jewelry box. This was the clear favorite of the test.

All of the chocolates sampled today covered a wide range of tastes, not surprising as they were assortments, but they lacked uniqueness. I realize this is the food column and not a love advice column, but to really make an impression find a good confectioner and get some of your sweetheart's favorites. Godiva's G-collection is the talk of the chocolate world, with flavors like Mexican hot chocolate, salted caramel and Tasmanian honey. More important than the chocolate is the person you're spending Valentine's Day with, good company always makes food taste better.

Sudoku puzzle of the week

by Evelyn Shapiro '06
FEATURES WRITER

Hundreds of newspapers around the world have been publishing daily Sudoku puzzles that push people to use logic and reasoning skills. People from all over have found themselves addicted to Sudoku and countless websites are now devoted to the subject.

The Sudoku puzzles that have taken the world by storm started in Japan as a form of crosswords. *Su* means "number" in Japanese and *doku* means "bachelor" or "single," so loosely translated, Sudoku means "single number."

The rules of the game are easy. Just place the digits 1 through 9 in the cells of the puzzles so that each digit appears only once in each square, row and column.

4			6		8			5
		8		1		6		
	5	7				3	8	
			8		7			
	8						9	
			3		1			
	9	4				5	6	
		3		8		7		
5			2		9			8

From "Super Sudoku, Book 2," by James E. Riley, Ph.D. Published by Good Year Books, 2005.

Know the gacts about the Emerson Literary Society

by Ashley Stagner '09
FEATURES WRITER

Everyone on campus knows about the Emerson Literary Society (ELS), or at least knows of them. What few students realize is what they really do: the society sponsors Smokin' Word, Cabaret, whipped-cream twister on Class and Charter day, Drop Beats not Bombs and its own lecture series.

The Emerson Literary Society began about 120 years ago, and was formed six weeks before Ralph Waldo Emerson's death by a group of students who wanted to recognize his work. Their goal was to create a non-selective society based off of his American philosophy. The society began as a fraternity, since Hamilton didn't allow women at the time, and sold stock certificates to build its own house off campus. One hundred years later, ELS accepted women to become the first co-ed society at Hamilton. Since its creation, over two thousand Hamilton students have been involved with the society. In 1995, however, the house was closed by the Board of Trustees because of the pressure to remove all private societies from the campus.

The lecture series entitled, "Tell Me What You Know" was inspired by the Emerson quote, "I hate quotes. Tell me what you know," and has included speakers like Noe-Noe Wong Wilson, a Hawaiian land conservation activist, and Kamila Shamsie, a Pakistani novelist and Hamilton creative writing professor. This year, the society is hoping to host Terry Brooks, a sci-fi/fantasy writer, and Tom Vilsack, the Governor of Iowa, along with several other speakers.

The society also co-sponsors events with academic departments at Hamilton.

Currently ELS is planning the speakers for the lecture series, parties like their annual "Cabaret," and of course, the "Rocky Horror Picture Show" themed party. The goals of ELS are to offer more scholarships and academic opportunities, and to offer more than just a greek system.

Johanna Reed '06 is the President, Michael Gruen '06 is Vice-President, Caroline O'Shea '07 is Secretary, Grace Dobbyn '08 is Treasurer and Joanna Myers '09 is the Historian/ Keeper of the Box. About twelve to fifteen members attend every meeting.

Meetings are every Monday at the Little Pub at 10:00 p.m. The meetings begin with a quote recited by the vice-president, Gruen, and then there is the introduction for new members. The society is not exclusive; anyone who wants to join can. To officially become a member, you must go to three consecutive meetings and sign the charter.

Members usually volunteer 7 -10 hours of their time for community service. Also, historically, a comparison of the GPA of members of ELS compared to the rest of the Hamilton campus showed that members are generally half a grade above other students.

Gruen joined the society when he was a freshman and stayed with it because, "it is a wonderful organization... it's not a society so much as a group of individuals helping to do good things for the college." He claims that an "Emersonian" has a type-A personality, does well, speaks his or her mind and seeks to benefit the social and academic environment at Hamilton. Gruen also says that the society is very grateful to their supportive board of trustees who help them with their events.

O'Shea also joined during her freshman year. She says, "I never had any interest in being in a sorority, but after meeting the upperclassmen members of ELS and learning about it, I knew it was a great society for me... I think ELS is s great thing at Hamilton, if only because it has a sort of alternative approach to social societies." O'Shea enjoys that the members are all friends, they hang out together, have great parties, and do all of this without being exclusive.

Myers came to an introductory meeting at the beginning of the year, after having attended the "Wonderland" party. Myers says, "So basically, I came for the costumes, and stayed for the people I met and the various fun activities we organize".

Dobbyn joined ELS in her sophomore year after going to Smokin' Word, and she thought it was a great alternative to the normal party scene. She commented that when she first joined, "[she] was immediately drawn in by the group as a whole. They were all very welcoming and excited by having new members."

So the next time you are at an ELS themed party, also consider the myriad of other activities that ELS has to offer, and go to a meeting. If you are interested in joining, feel free to contact one of the members.

Prof. Profile: Hans Broedel

by Rebekah Mintzer '09
FEATURES WRITER

During his last semester here at Hamilton this much beloved history professor opens up about his passions for medieval history, supernatural creatures and toy soldiers.

Visiting Professor of History Hans Peter Broedel, is one of those invaluable educators who is as passionate about teaching his students as they are about taking his courses. "Hamilton students make teaching exciting," Broedel comments with obvious enthusiasm in his voice. "Really, you guys have no idea how easy and fun you make teaching for me." The gratitude is mutual. Every semester students of history and other fields of academia flock to sign up for Broedel's courses, especially his most popular class, War and Society In the Ancient World. After seven years at Hamilton, Professor Broedel is leaving following the Spring '06 semester to look for opportunities beyond the Hill.

To fully appreciate Professor Broedel's devotion to the study of history, especially to his area of expertise, medieval history, one must look at his personal story. Brodel was born and raised in Seattle, Washington and attended the University of Washington where he received his B.A. He stayed on at the university, managing a print shop there, and later used the money he made at the print shop to help him earn his Master's Degree. Coincidentally, he can still remember printing the dissertations of current Elihu Root Peace Fund Associate Professor of Women's Studies Vivyan Adair and Professor of Psychology Greg Pierce. Broedel went on to work as a teaching assistant, and thus discovered that he harbored a great love for educating others about history. He earned a doctorate in history in 1998 at Washington.

When asked why he chose to study history, Broedel responded with a question, "What do you remember about your life when you look at a photo of yourself at age five?" Broedel is fascinated with the past because it is largely out of the reach of the present. It can be studied through evidence, but it is impossible to recreate the feelings of existing in a past place and time.

WWW.HAMILTON.EDU
Professor Broedel.

Broedel can never recapture the medieval worldview, but he can attempt to get as close as he can, and enjoy the intellectual challenge of the attempt.

Broedel's entertaining and humourous teaching style help him to convey his own love of history to Hamilton students. "Hans Broedel is the only man that can make the plague funny," says Hillary Fixelle '09, a student in his Europe In Transition course, one of the two classes that he is teaching this semsester.

Broedel has published several papers about the Middle Ages and has always been particularly fascinated with ideas of the supernatural in this time period. His works include "Ghosts and the Communal Boundary in the High and Late Middle Ages" (1993) and "Oral Testimony and Textual Authority in the Malleus Maleficarum" (1995).

Broedel even did his dissertation on the Malleus Maleficarum, a book describing witchcraft during medieval times. Currently, he has shifted his attention more towards the history of science and the origins of natural science. He is interested in strange species of animals that were said to exist in medieval times, but probably were not seen by accountable sources.

Broedel enjoys spending time with his wife of 22 years and his daughter. He also enjoys golf and has a very unusual hobby: collecting and hand painting pewter soldiers. Since he was a young boy, Broedel has enjoyed displaying these toy soldiers. He owns soldiers made to look like they existed in various periods of history and various locations, from the Late Roman era, to Napoleonic France, to Britain. With regard to reading about history, Broedel has many favorite historical books, but recommends Patrick O'Brien's "Master and Commander," as well as "Jonathan Strange and Mr. Norrell" by Susanna Clarke. Soldier collections and historical novels aside, Professor Broedel's greatest interest is teaching. In his words, "Once you start, you love it, and it never gets old."

Weekly Events: Where you want to be!

Fri.	Sat.	Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.
Chemistry Seminar (3:00-4:30) BSU Meeting (5:00-6:00) ACS Lunar New Year (5:30-11:00) Marian Anderson String Quartet (8:00-10:00)	Culinary Class (11:00-2:00) Public Speaking Competition (1:00-5:00) M. Ice Hockey v. New England College (3:00) Student Recital (7:00-8:00) CAB Comedy's Mike Birbiglia (8:00-10:00)	Community Church (11:00-12:15) Newman Mass (1:00-2:00) Snowball Fight (2:00-4:00) Indoor Carnival (4:00-5:30) A Capella Concert (9:00-10:30)	Wine Tasting (4:30-6:30) Date Show and Auction (12:00-12:30) Pizza War (7:00-8:00) "Do You Speak American?" (7:00-8:00) HOC Open Hours (7:00-9:00) Lecture: Alan Krueger (7:30-9:30)	Newman Mass (12:00-1:00) Snoccer Tournament (4:00-5:30) Beer Tasting (4:30-6:30) "The Vagina Monologues" (7:00-9:00) Skating Party (9:00-11:00)	Snoccer Tournament (4:00-5:30) Stanley Lombardo's "The Fall of Troy" (4:10-6:00) Wine Tasting (4:30-6:30) Battle of the Bands (9:00-10:30) Late Night Breakfast (10:00-12:00) The Black Box Show (8:00-9:30)	Newman Mass (12:00-1:00) Beer Tasting (4:30-6:30) HOC Open Hours (7:00-9:00) Accoustic Coffeehouse (8:00-11:00) Karaoke Night (10:00-2:00)
Film on Movie Channel: The Goonies						

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Arts & Entertainment

Valentine's Day music to match every situation

By Nicole Dietsche '09
Arts & Entertainment Writer

It's that time of year again. No, not Christmas, it's Valentine's Day. The one holiday where it is assumed that a card and box of chocolates or bouquet of flowers will instantly win over that girl's heart (come on, ladies, we must improve this to at least a car to win our hearts). Well, as we all know, some people just have better luck than others. So here is my personal playlist of good songs for all of your emotional highs and lows: be it loving bliss or throwing your ex's clothes on the front lawn.

Category 1: Love. For all of you lucky people out there who have either a Valentine or "significant other," here is a song that will keep the butterflies in your stomach and those little wings of love on your heels. Just as a side-note, stop hovering so low, you're creating a breeze for the rest of us.

1. Anything by Josh Groban. Admit it. Especially you, ladies. Any song sung in about five different languages by a gorgeous man makes you feel in love.
2. "I Love How You Love Me" by Beth Orton or the Paris Sisters. It may bring little tears of joy to your love-filled eyes.
3. "How Sweet It Is (To Be Loved By You)" by James Taylor. It's James Taylor, need I say more?
4. "Moshi Moshi" by Brand New. The best line in this song has absolutely positively got to be "Well you're wasting your time/ if you're trying to impress me/ I waste all of my time thinking of you." If that was used as a pick-up line, I would fall for it.
5. "I Want to Hold Your Hand" by the Beatles. C'mon. Does this even warrant an explanation?
6. "I Caught Fire" by The Used. You may be saying to yourself: "This girl is mad! the Used? Don't they scream a lot?" Well here is my rebuttal. Yes, I possibly am slightly mad, and yes, The Used do scream a lot, but at the same time, not so much in this song, and if you listen to the lyrics - "So kiss me like you did/ my heart stopped beating/ Such a softer sin/ I'm melting, I'm melting/ In your eyes" - don't try to come to me and tell me that it's not a romantic song.
7. "Wonderwall" by Oasis. If you get over the fact that the Gallagher brothers have matching uni-brows, you listen to the lyrics and melt a little bit: "Because maybe/ You're gonna be the one that saves me/ And after all/ You're my wonderwall."
8. "What I Like About You" by The Romantics or The Ramones. Do I even need to go into this one? It just makes you happy and bouncy and gives you a "I just drank warm milk" feeling in your stomach.
9. "Southern Girl" and "Stellar" by Incubus. If a guy told you "You're an exception to the rule/ You're a bonafide rarity./ You're all I ever wanted;/ Southern girl, could you want me?" would you not be giddy? What if he said: "You are stellar./ How do you do it?/ make me feel like I do"? Yeah, I thought so.
10. "Redundant" and "2000 Light Years Away" by Green Day. Did you really think that you would make it through this list without at least one Green Day song? Anyway, as for "Redundant," I don't need to say more than "I Love You's not enough/ I'm lost for words." And as for "Light Years," let me say that it is off "Kerplunk," one of Green Day's earlier records, and is written about the first time Billie Joe Armstrong met his wife (and knew he was going to marry her): "I hold my breath and close my eyes and/ Dream about her."

Category 2: Heartbreak. This is the category for all of you bitter, angsty, unloved emo kids out there who see Valentine's Day as just another attempt to kick you while you're down. As you can probably guess which category I fall into, I had to seriously cut this list down so as not to take up the entire newspaper section.

1. "Jude Law and a Semester Abroad" and "The Boy Who Blocked His Own Shot" by Brand New. Ok, so, here's the thing. In "Jude Law," our lovely emo boy is hoping that his ex-girlfriend's plane crashes or that "the next boy that [she] kisses has something terribly contagious on his lips." And in "Boy" (yes, Brand New has a tendency to give their songs epic titles) emo boy sings: "And if it makes you less sad, I'll take your pictures all down./ Every picture you paint, I will paint myself out./ It's cold as a tomb, and it's dark in your room, when I sneak to your bed to pour salt in your wounds." Sad, I know.
2. "Screaming Infidelities" and "The Brilliant Dance" by Dashboard Confessional. Here are only two of many Dashboard songs that I could have chosen. Mere suggestions for all of you novices. Those more advanced in emo music will know that almost any Dashboard song is a good heartbreak song.
3. "Our Lady of Sorrows," "Cubicles," and "I'm Not Okay (I Promise)" by My Chemical Romance. If you weren't surprised to see Green Day, then why would you be surprised to see My Chem? Anyway, "Sorrows" is a great song to scream along to, especially if you are very frustrated. "Cubicles" is bittersweet ("It's the tearing sound of love-notes/ I'd photocopy all the things that we could be/ If you took the time to notice me/ But you can't now, I don't blame you/ And it's not your fault that no one ever does/.../ This happens all the time/ And I can't help but think I'll die alone") and "I'm Not Okay" doesn't really even need an explanation.
4. "My Eyes Burn" by Matchbook Romance. She left him! Why would she do that? Probably for the same reason that your respective other half left you. Yeah, I said it. What are you going to do about it? That's right, listen to the songs on this list.
5. "Breaking the Habit" by Linkin Park. A metaphor that can be interpreted in many ways. How about like this: breaking the habit of that bad relationship? Put a positive spin on it. And then, go get a cup of hot chocolate; it's comforting.
6. "Inside Out" by Eve 6. An oldie (kind of) but a goodie (kind of). "Heart in a blender?" I do believe that this song directly discusses the fact that your ex has just ripped out your heart, thrown it on the ground, stomped on it a few times and handed it back to you with dust bunnies still stuck to it.
7. "Bandages" by Hot Hot Heat. If you can't relate to "Bandages on my legs and my arms from you," then you were obviously put together wrong and I would like a refund. Anyway, after you pick all of the dust bunnies and that old Cheerio (ah, how God smites thee and laughs sardonically at your pain, even with whole grain cereal!) off of your heart, you may need a Care Bear-themed Band Aid.
8. "Listening," "Soundeffects and Overdramatics," "Hard to Say" and "Yesterday's Feelings" by The Used. "That's more like it!" you may be rejoicing in your head, "This is where the Used goes!" (but if you're doing the victorious arm-pump thing, I sure do hope you're alone in your room. Well, if you're reading this part of the article, you most likely are alone. And for that, I am sorry, but get in line.) Congratulations on that call. Anyway, "Listen-

see Valentine's, page 21

Portland Taiko comes to Wellin

By Paul Bleiberg '06
Arts & Entertainment Writer

The Hamilton College Performing Arts Contemporary Voices and Visions Series continues on February 18 with the Portland Taiko Drum Ensemble at 8:00 p.m. at Wellin Hall in the Schambach Center for Music and the Performing Arts.

Established in 1994, Portland Taiko Ensemble is an award-winning Asian-American drumming ensemble. The performers weave rhythm, melody, humor and movement together into an exhilarating musical experience. Combining traditional and contemporary compositions and choreography, Portland Taiko Ensemble takes Asian American music into unexplored territory with its innovative and provocative creations.

The first professional taiko company in the Pacific Northwest, Portland Taiko Ensemble was honored by the National Endowment for the Arts and the American Composers Forum to represent the state of Oregon in a national music project celebrating the new millennium, entitled Continental Harmony. The culminating performance was enthusiastically received by sold-out audiences and featured on National Public Radio and Oregon Public Broadcasting. The ensemble is also widely recognized as a leading group in the North American taiko community.

With a recent standing-room-only appearance at the Kennedy Center's Millennium Stage in Washington, D.C. and touring throughout the country, Portland Taiko shares its contemporary taiko sensibilities with a national audience. According to Chika Shirota of the *Okinawa Times*, "Portland Taiko creates a language that takes past experiences, history and memory and transforms it into sound, song and movement that will echo into the future. It was a hot night in Osaka."

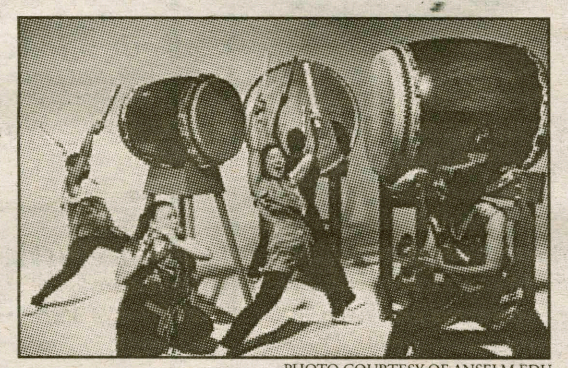

PHOTO COURTESY OF ANSELM.EDU
Portland Taiko will perform at Hamilton.

Taiko, the Japanese word for drum and the name of the art form, has its roots in ancient Japanese tradition and was used in religious ceremonies, community festivals and theater. The boundaries of villages were defined by the distance from which the community taiko could be heard. American taiko was born in the late 1960s, and it became a powerful symbol of voice during the struggle for redress of the Japanese American internment.

Today, Portland Taiko Ensemble brings its own unique, contemporary style and innovations in taiko to over 50,000 people a year at festivals, schools, theaters, colleges, and fairs.

Tickets for this performance are $18 general admission, $12 for senior citizens, and $5 for Hamilton students. All seating is general admission. For more information or tickets, call the box office at (315) 859-4331, 1-4 p.m. weekdays or visit www.hamilton.edu/college/performingarts.

Seniors Bleiberg and Taddei to perform at Senior Recital

By Paul Bleiberg '06
Arts & Entertainment Writer

The Hamilton College Department of Music presents a Senior Recital featuring Paul Bleiberg '06, clarinet, and Sar-Shalom Strong, piano, with Alexander J. Taddei '06, bassoon, on Saturday, Feb. 11, at 7 p.m. at Wellin Hall in the Schambach Center for Music and the Performing Arts.

Works included on the program will be Witold Lutoslawski's "Dance Preludes," Johannes Brahms' "Sonata for Clarinet and Piano Op. 120, No. 2 in E-flat Major," Mikhail Glinka's "Trio Pathetique in D Minor" and Francis Poulenc's "Sonata for Clarinet and Piano."

Bleiberg has studied the clarinet with Barbara Rabin for three years and is currently the principal clarinetist in the Hamilton College Orchestra. A government concentrator, Bleiberg plans on pursuing a career in politics in Washington, D.C. upon graduation.

At Hamilton, he directs the Study Buddies Program and is involved with the College Republicans.

Strong, piano, is a lecturer in piano and a staff pianist at Hamilton College. Strong also serves as a staff accompanist and coach at Syracuse University's Setnor School of Music.

In addition, Strong regularly performs orchestral keyboard with the Syracuse Symphony Orchestra, and he is often invited to present master classes or to adjudicate competitions throughout the country.

This performance is free and open to the public. All seating is general admission. For more information or tickets, call the box office at (315) 859-4331, 1-4 p.m. weekdays.

The IMF presents the Top 10 Albums of 2005

By Chris Fazio '06
Arts & Entertainment Writer

The IMF Presents:
The Top 10 Albums of 2005

Over winter break, 12 members of the IMF submitted by top-secret ballot their selections of the best albums, songs and shows of the past year. We crunched all the numbers and churned out the definitive year-end lists. Here's a sampling of that musical goodness: our top 10 favorite albums of the 2005. If you're interested in getting into incredible new music, give these records a spin and check out the complete lists at imf.hamilton.edu.

10 | Bloc Party - "Silent Alarm"

When I heard about this band, I was interested and acquired the record. I was stunned at how good the album was. It was sort of poppy for my taste, and I figured it would be my "guilty pleasure of the summer." It hasn't left my CD changer since. - Ben Turner '05

9 | Bright Eyes - "I'm Wide Awake It's Morning"

"I'm Wide Awake, It's Morning" softly tells of Conor Oberst's start in NYC as a musician and the pains the city life caused him. The album deviates from the screaming and striking chords we have become accustomed to in his earlier releases leaving us with a soft new style, which is reminiscent of Bob Dylan. Oberst touches a deep nerve with his

PHOTO COURTESY OF AMAZON.COM

Bright Eyes: "I'm Wide Awake It's Morning"

poetic lyrics, acoustic strummings, and quietly saddening voice. - Chris Rand '09

8 | Andrew Bird - "Andrew Bird and the Mysterious Production of Eggs"

Violinist and former retro-swing artist, Andrew Bird, turned his music in a more introspective direction this year. On "Andrew Bird and the Mysterious Production of Eggs," the singer/songwriter strove for a fuller sound and more pensive storytelling. With this new approach, Andrew Bird created an album full of whimsical pop, wry lyrics, a versatile voice and, of course, an enthralling violin. - Tom Lewek '09

7 | Dungen - "Ta Det Lugnt"

My inexplicable obsession with everything Scandinavian reached new heights when I became infatuated with "Ta Det Lungt," a mixture of late-'60s folk-pop and '70s acid-rock sung entirely in Swedish. Dungen, however, is no mere imitation; they revive psychedelia with more invention and brio than the vast majority of their contemporaries. If only I knew what the words actually meant... - Alex Preiss '07

6 | The Go! Team - "Thunder, Lightning, Strike"

Great Britain's the Go! Team do quite a bit of genre-hopping on "Thunder, Lightning, Strike." This team offers some female-MCed hip hop, feel-good dance traxx, a tear-jerking instrumental and even some Charlie-Brownian piano. The album somehow maintains its consistency while sounding like the soundtrack to 1980's action-packed TV (I can definitely picture William Shatner sliding across the hood of a car or Mr. T in hot pursuit of a bad guy while listening to "Junior Kickstart"). - Danny Klag '06

5 | The Decemberists - "Picaresque"

The album plays like a series of 11 highly wrought short stories, and Colin Meloy's songwriting only gets better and better as his subject matter diversifies. A bolstered rhythm section and a much-needed emphasis on percussion allows the group to explore a lot of different musical styles outside of their beloved pirate dirges. - Chris Fazio '06

4 | Animal Collective - "Feels"

I think listening to the Animal Collective is as close as I'm ever going to get to doing hard drugs. On the first listen you freak out a little bit,

COURTESY OF BETTERPROPAGANDA.COM

Decemberists: "Picaresque"

but then you sort of lose track of reality when it starts to kick in. The first side of "Feels" revisits Sung Tong's spastic anti-pop while the second side gets even more psychedelic with drawn out ambient tracks. Their critical acclaim is no fluke so long as they continue their beautiful destruction of pop music. - Chris Fazio '06

3 | Claps Your Hands Say Yeah - "Claps Your Hands Say Yeah"

These hip Brooklynites self-produced, self recorded, and self released their debut album this year, to much critical acclaim. With no record label or distribution deal, they shipped a buttload of copies of their album out of their (presumably) tiny apartment. CHYSY have since signed one of those fancy distribution deals (maintaining full creative control, of course), toured the United States and Canada, and have become one of the most talked-about indie acts of the mid-2000s. Oh, and by the way, the album is good too. - Danny Klag '06

2 | Wolf Parade - "Apologies to the Queen Mary"

Yet another Canadian indie band with a "wolf" pseudonym. Adored by the press, produced by Modest Mouse's Issac Brock, buddies with the Arcade Fire, the album features ex-Hot Hot Heat member. Guitars, drums, keys, and theremin/other homemade electronics. See also: Hype, Off-kilter vocals, Montreal. - Danny Klag '06

1 | Sufjan Stevens - "Illinois"

"Illinois" takes us on a mythical journey through the state's little known history. Backed by excellent instrumentation (a string quartet, Vince Guaraldi-esque piano, horns, banjo and the Illinoise Makers choir) Sufjan's accounts take a different perspective on death, depressed areas, murderers and monotony with intelligent rhyme schemes and thoughtful lyrics. "Illinois" is a masterpiece reflecting the spirit and creativity of one of today's most unique songwriters. - Chelsea Graham '08

Valentine's music

from Valentine's, page 20

-ing" and "Sound-effects" are great screaming songs to vent out all of that rage and frustration and will keep you from punching a wall and possibly breaking some knuckles. Listening at loud volumes is recommended. "Hard to Say" and "yesterday's Feelings" are more sensitive songs that may actually make you cry, but that's all part of the healing process. It's okay, let it all out.

9. "It Ends Tonight" by The All-American Rejects. Sad, sweet and generally makes you feel better because it makes you feel that it's all for the best that you aren't currently checked off in the "In a Relationship" box on Facebook.com.
10. "Lovebites and Razorlines" by Glassjaw. A very angry song. You don't have to know the words or even be able to understand what Daryl Palumbo is screaming, but you will feel better. The song is like the healing process: it starts off with screaming, calms and repeats.

There are the two main categories, but here are two quick sub-categories that may or may not put a smile on your face, even if you have tears running down it.

Sub-Category A: On the Fence/a.k.a. Unrequited Love/a.k.a Transitional Period. For those times in your life when you don't really fit in a category, but still feel the need for music.

1. "Sitting, Waiting, Wishing" by Jack Johnson. Happy? Sad? Confused is more like it. Thanks, Jack.
2. "Middle of Nowhere" by Hot Hot Heat. Precisely! You are in an emotional "middle of nowhere." How perfect.
3. "Good Riddance" by Green Day. Does this need explanation? Okay, good.

Sub-Category B: Hook Up Songs. For those... cough, cough... hormonal urges.

1. "Do You Want To" by Franz Ferdinand. "When I woke up tonight/ I said I'm/ gonna make somebody love me/.../ now I know, now I know, now I know/ I know that it's you/ you're lucky, lucky, you're so lucky!" I just hope you had a few beers before you uttered those lines.
2. "Discovery Channel" and "Foxtrot Uniform Charlie Kilo" by The Bloodhound Gang. I'm not even going to go into it, we're all adults here.
3. "Baby's Got Back" by Sir Mix-a-Lot. If you absolutely must revive this one from the grave, use it sparingly. And note, there are no girls who are '36-24-36' without the aid of surgery.

And there are your lists. Use them wisely, little ones, don't eat too many Conversation Hearts and remember, for Valentine's Day, girls like sparkly things. Like jewelry.

Van Morrison transcends time

By Katherine A. Jurras '06
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Van Morrison, born George Ivan Morrison, is originally from Northern Ireland; born to a mother who was a singer and a father who collected jazz albums. At age fifteen, he dropped out of school to join an R&B band called the Monarchs, who traveled around Europe. Influenced by people like Little Richard and Ray Charles, Morrison left the Monarchs to form his own band, called Them.

In 1964, Them recorded "Don't Start Crying Now," their first single, and gathered a local fan base. The next year the band recorded a cover of Big Joe Williams's "Baby Please Don't Go," which landed on the United Kingdom's Top Ten. The band's single, "Gloria," (written by Morrison) while not immediately popular, became a veritable rock legend that has been covered by artists from several genres.

The band faced problems with its line-up, and eventually Morrison quit out of frustration after a 1966 tour and returned to Ireland. Beginning in 1970 he began writing songs on his own, and was immensely successful.

Vh1.com writes, "Equal parts blue-eyed soul shouter and wild-eyed poet-sorcerer, Van Morrison is among popular music's true innovators, a restless seeker whose incantatory vocals and alchemical fusion of R&B, jazz, blues, and Celtic folk produced perhaps the most spiritually transcendent body of work in the rock & roll canon."

Starting with "Moondance," Morrison's albums became more and more successful. He was able to produce a diverse range of highly creative songs that all seemed tied together with a certain recognizable sound. Much of his music was influenced by his happy marriage to Janet Planet and had a sort of celebratory sound. In 1971 Morrison released the album "Tupelo Honey," which was particularly successful because of its hit, "Wild Night." Shortly afterward, Morrison formed the Caledonia Soul Orchestra. The project did not last very long, and after his divorce to Planet he moved from their home in California back to Ireland.

His 1974 LP "Veedon Fleece" was tumultuous and represented the changes that were going on in Morrison's life. After the release of the album he took several years off, not releasing an album until three years later. The album was appropriately titled "A Period of Transition." The following year, 1978, Morrison produced, "Wavelength" and went on tour for the first time in five years to support the album. Unfortunately the singer, who fought severe stage fright for years, was plagued by it again. His performances became less and less frequent and he was known to vanish off stage in the middle of a concert.

The 1980s were characterized by a new theme for Morrison. He released a succession of religious-themed records, including "Into the Music," "Inarticulate Speech of the Heart," "A Sense of Wonder" and "No Guru, No Method, No Teacher." The songs off of these albums exhibited the same Van Morrison sound that was so well-liked, but explored the new theme of religious faith. Near the end of the decade the singer collaborated with the native Irish band the Chieftains to produce an album of Ireland-inspired folky songs. A duet with Cliff Richard called "Whenever God Shines his Light" made it to the charts—the first time for Morrison in more than 2 decades.

In 1993 Morrison had more success when his song, "Have I Told You Lately That I Love You" reached extreme popularity. It would later reach the charts in the United States when Rod Stewart covered it. It seemed that even after something of a relapse, Morrison was back on the music scene. A greatest hits album proved to be his most successful so far and also succeeded in presenting Morrison to a new generation of fans.

In the 1990s Morrison expressed his creativity with a variety of eclectic albums, unlike the uniformity of the religious-themed albums of the '80s. He performed covers of jazz, blues and R&B songs and even teamed up with his daughter for a duet on "You Don't Know Me." Morrison has never stopped producing music, and most likely never will.

Although the musician went out of his way to avoid clichéd popularity, he managed to garner a huge cult-like following, and his music is still enormously popular.

Science & Technology

Dozens of new species found in Indonesian jungle

by Laura Trubiano '07
Science & Technology Editor

Scientists announced on Tuesday that they had found a "Lost World" in an isolated Indonesian mountain jungle. The United States, Indonesian and Australian team reported that the jungle, in part of the cloud-shrouded Foja mountains in Papua, a province in the west of New Guinea, is home to dozens of exotic new species of birds, butterflies frogs and plants, as well as large mammals hunted to near extinction elsewhere. "It's as close to the Garden of Eden as you're going to find on Earth," said Bruce Beehler, co-leader of the expedition, in a February 7 CNN.com article.

Among the species discovered is a new type of honeyeater bird with a bright orange patch on its face, known only to local people. The scientists also reported that they discovered 20 frog species, four new butterfly species and at least five new types of palms. One of the most remarkable discoveries was the Golden-mantled Tree Kangaroo, a jungle-dweller previously unknown to Indonesia and thought to have been hunted to near extinction. In addition, the team took the first photographs of "Berlepsch's six-wired bird of paradise," which appears in 19th century literature but whose habitat had previously been unknown. The bird is named for the six fine feathers on the head of the male which can be raised in courtship rituals.

The wildlife was surprisingly unafraid of humans. Two Long-Beaked Echidnas, a primitive egg-laying mammal, allowed scientists to simply pick them up and bring them to the camp to be studied.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CNN.COM

The 11-member expedition team took the first pictures of "Berlepsch's six-wired bird of paradise."

The team flew in helicopters to boggy clearings in the area and cut two trails about 3.5 miles long, leaving much of the area still to be explored. Because of the rich diversity in the forest, the group did not need to travel more than a few miles from the camp during the two month expedition. "We just scratched the surface," said Beehler. "Anyone who goes there will come back with a mystery."

The discovery of an area untouched by humans and so rich with animal and plant life is refreshing, as it comes at a time when pristine areas around the world are under increasing threat from humans who are expanding into previously unsettled areas and raising pollution levels. Indigenous peoples living near the Foja range said they did not venture into the trackless area of 3,000 square kilometers, which is roughly the size of Rhode Island. Two leaders from the Kwerba and Papasena tribes, customary owners of the Foja Mountains, accompanied the expedition. "They were as astounded as we were at how isolated it was," said Beehler in a February 6 Livescience.com article. "There was not a single trail, no sign of civilization, no sign of even local communities ever having been there."

Papua is one of Indonesia's most remote provinces, and access by foreigners is tightly restricted. The team of scientists needed six permits before legally entering the area. One of the reasons the rain forest is so isolated is that only a few hundred people live there, and game in the foothills is so abundant that they had n oreason to venture towards the interior. The area has the status of a wildlife sanctuary and there do not appear to be any immediate conservation threats. "No logging permits are given to this area, there is no transport system—not a single road," said Beehler in the Livescience.com article; he added that the Indonesian government was doing the right thing by keeping the area off limits to most visitors, including loggers and mineral prospectors.

Rutgers team studies the "Freshmen Fifteen"

by Laura Trubiano '07
Science & Technology Editor

Is the "Freshmen Fifteen" a myth? According to a Rutgers University study, the common belief that college students gain fifteen pounds during their freshmen year is exaggerated. The results show that weight gain does often occur but it is usually less than 15 pounds and is not universal.

According to the Rutgers website, the study focused on 67 first-year students who were weighed in the fall and underwent a second series of measurements in the spring. The average weight gain was seven pounds, which is the result of eating approximately 112 extra calories per day. While the study disproved the Freshmen Fifteen phenomenon, three-quarters of the participants did gain some weight during their first year.

"This suggests that the freshman year may be an environment where eating more food than the body needs is the predominant state for a significant number of students," said Peggy Policastro, co-author on the paper, on the Rutgers website. Policastro suggests that this may be due to decreased physical activity, prompted by no longer participating in organized sports or making less of an effort to stay active. Other factors may include increased caloric intake due to eating in buffet-style dining halls and increased alcohol intake, although these factors were not measured in this study.

"The fact that a relatively small change in the calories consumed compared to energy expended could result in a significant gain of fat underscores the importance for eating a balanced diet and engaging in moderate exercise on a regular basis. If this level of positive energy balance is maintained through all four years of college, these students have the potential to gain 27 pounds by graduation," said Daniel Hoffman, a professor from Department of Nutritional Studies on the study team.

In addition to health risks like Type II diabetes and hypertension, weight gain in college students can lower self-esteem and hinders academic performance

Therefore, while fifteen pounds may be an exaggeration for one year, the total weight gain throughout college could be almost double that.

The results of this study will be published in the Journal of Amercan College Health.

Livestock farmers exempt from pollution fines

by Anne Schlesinger '06
Science & Technology Writer

The Bush administration recently approved an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) effort to exempt thousands of livestock producers nationwide from pollution standards, the Associated Press reported. The EPA asserts that the measure will provide a better understanding of the amount of ammonia, soot, hydrogen sulfide and volatile organic compounds emitted by industrial animal feeding operations.

Volatile organic compounds, released from decaying manure, contribute to the amount of ozone in our air, which poses a serious health hazard. (While it is a *lack* of ozone in the upper atmosphere that represents a threat, an *excess* of ozone in our air also poses a health threat). Ammonia and hydrogen sulfide also volatilize from manure, contributing to acid rain and causing potentially serious respiratory and eye problems. Soot, composed of extremely fine particles, is a product of diesel-fueled farm equipment and has been linked to lung cancer and an increasing number of asthma cases, reported the American Heart and Lung Association.

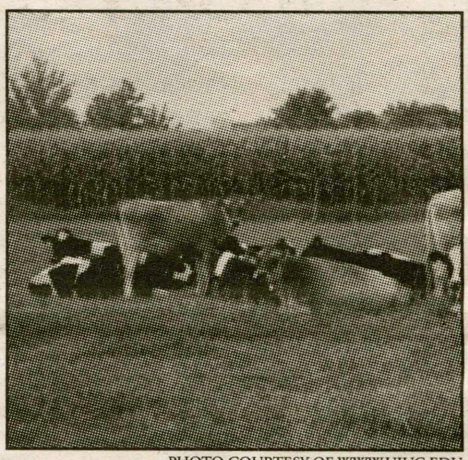
PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.UIUC.EDU

Volatile organic compunds, ammonia and hydrogen sulfide from maure can cause potentially serious health problems.

The EPA began discussions in 2001 with representatives from large, industrial livestock producers about implementing a voluntary program that would, according to the EPA website, "bring industry into compliance, largely by addressing data problems and lack of emissions factors" that have made EPA standards difficult to apply in the past. The Agency took their questions to the National Academy of Science, who determined present data on livestock emissions to be inadequate.

The EPA has thus far signed agreements with 2,681 animal feeding operations (encompassing 6,700 farms), each of which will be exempt from having to pay tens of thousands of dollars in fines for either past or present violations. Farms pay $2,500 into an EPA fund expected to pay for two years of monitoring air at 28-30 farms. The EPA will provide these farms amnesty from being sued for EPA violations, although not from private groups, reported the *Des Moines Register*.

According to the Associated Press, Jon Scholl, agriculture advisor to EPA administrator Stephen L. Johnson, praised the effort, declaring it the most efficient way to determine whether or not animal feeding operations are complying with EPA regulations.

Environmentalists, however, claim that the decision violates the Clean Air Act and criticize the administration for exempting farms from pollution standards instead of more actively enforcing standards *now*. A Sierra Club press release expresses the group's dismay: "Instead of forcing polluters to clean up their act, the Bush administration has given them a get-out-of-jail-free card."

California lawyer Brent Newell represents the groups whose suit against the measure is pending in the U.S. Court of Appeals. "What makes this deal so bad," he told the *Des Moines Register*, "is that these facilities should control their pollution now." Newell and the Sierra Club estimate that the EPA will not be able to enforce new standards until 2011, putting residents who live nearby the animal feeding operators at risk.

Officials report, though, that without such a deal, emissions standards would take even longer to compile, perhaps even a decade, according to the Associated Press. Furthermore, officials claim that through this measure, animal feeding operations and companies will gain an understanding of the science used to determine emissions policies. According to the Associated Press, officials also assured that the EPA retains the right to take action against any company whose operations represent an immediate threat to public health.

Farmers in favor of the measure, like Bill Brenton of Dallas Center, Iowa, like the ensured protection and the time the measure buys them. "If there is a problem found," he told the *Des Moines Register*, "you have some protection and time to fix any problems."

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THE SEVEN DEADLY SINS OF BAD WRITING

The Third Deadly Sin: Wordiness

Concise writing is the key to clear communication. Wordiness obscures your ideas and frustrates your reader. Make your points as succinctly as possible, and move on. As Strunk and White tell us in *Elements of Style*:

> Vigorous writing is concise. A sentence should contain no unnecessary words, a paragraph no unnecessary sentences.... This requires not that the writer makes all sentences short, or avoid all detail and treat subjects only in outline, but that every word tell. (23)

Once you start searching for unnecessary words, you will find you can cut many without any loss of meaning. In fact, your writing will be crisper and more appealing. Remember: make "every word tell."

Strategies for eliminating wordiness:

Use action verbs rather than forms of the verb *to be (is, are, was, were)*.

wordy

The reason that General Lee invaded Pennsylvania in June, 1863, was to draw the Army of the Potomac away from Richmond.

revised (replace *was* with action verb *invaded)*

General Lee invaded Pennsylvania in June, 1863, to draw the Army of the Potomac away from Richmond.

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Preliminary Rounds: February 11th
1:00 - 5:00 @ the Chapel

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Final Rounds: March4th
1:00-5:00 @ the Chapel

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To register e-mail
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Important Dates For SENIORS

Senior Gift 75% Deadline – March 3rd
Trustee Reception for Senior Class – March 3rd, 6 p.m. in the Hub

Senior Gift 90% Deadline – April 20

- **CONGRATULATIONS!** We blew past our 50% participation deadline on December 9 (achieving an unprecedented 60% participation before the second semester) and have now earned a total of $3,000 in challenge money from the Trustees. When we reach **75% participation by March 3rd**, we will receive ***another $3,000*** in trustee challenge money.
- Remember that you may make a donation in honor of someone who has made an impact on your Hamilton experience: a faculty member, family member, administrator or peer.
- If you don't want to contribute to the gift – give to the Annual Fund. It will still help us towards our 100% participation goal.
- It's easy to make your gift: E-mail us to (srgift@hamilton.edu) find a Senior Gift Committee representative in person or do it on-line, TODAY:

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Senior Campaign 2006
Class of 2006 Internship Fund

Kobe Bryant's exceptional season continues

All-Star leads league in scoring, however, Lakers have been relatively ineffective on the road

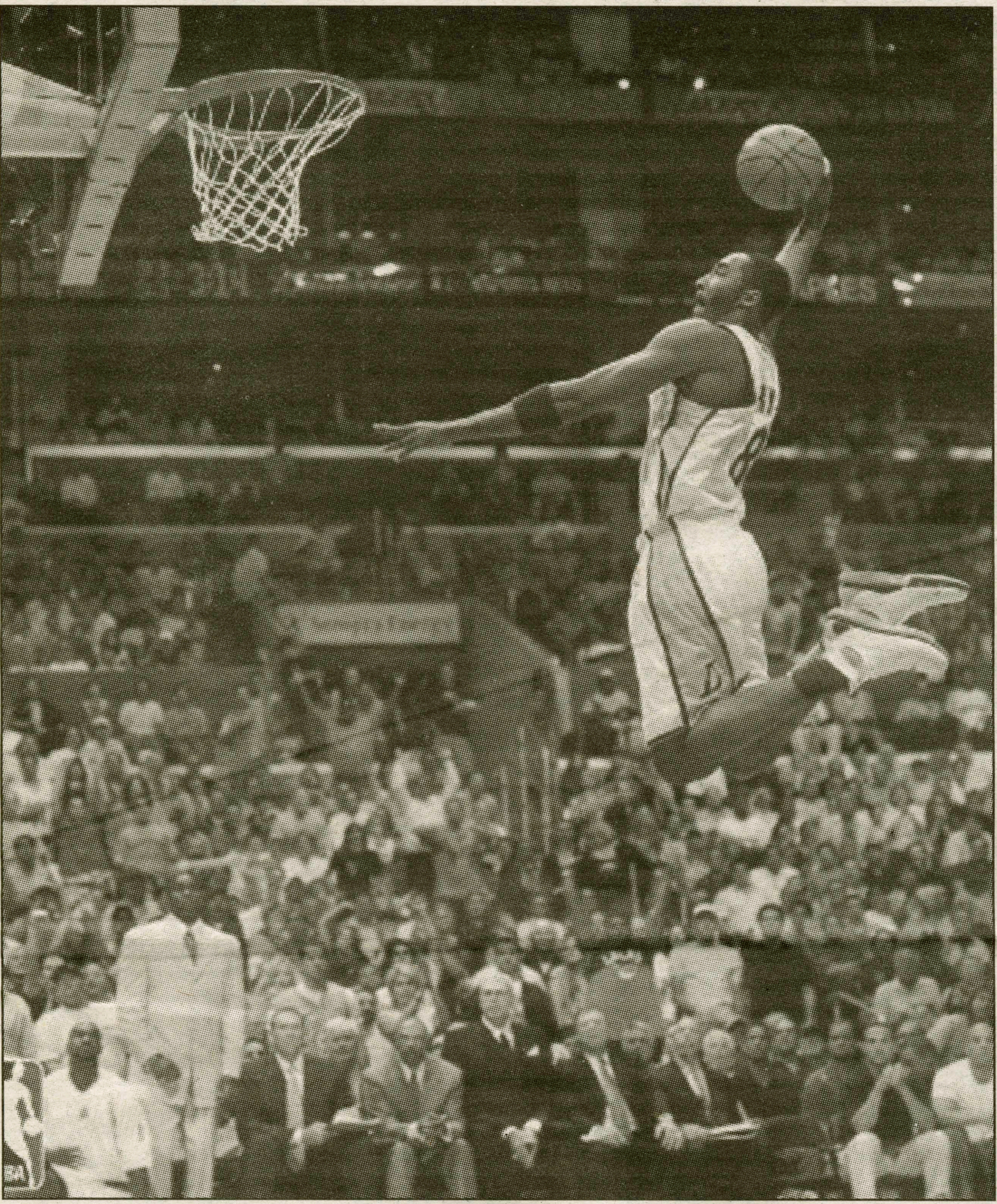

PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.NBA.COM

Kobe Bryant is averaging 35.4 points per game this season, including 46 per game in January.

by Jonathan Zellner '08
SPORTS CONTRIBUTOR

Kobe Bryant is out to prove something. He made history on January 22 by lighting up the Toronto Raptors for eighty-one points. In December, he torched the Dallas Mavericks for sixty-two—in *three* quarters—and outscored the entire Mavericks' starting lineup by one in that same span. For the month of January, he averaged forty-six per game. For the season, he's averaging over thirty-five.

Yep. Kobe Bryant is certainly out to prove something; that he's the most selfish, despised athlete in professional basketball, and possibly all of professional sports for that matter.

Funny thing is he doesn't have to prove it; he already is. He basically earned the title following the shake-up of the Los Angeles Lakers two years ago. His recent performances only reinforce the notion, where, on a typical night, he'll gun for Wilt Chamberlain's single game scoring record, show no concern for whether or not the Lakers win in the process, and modestly quip thereafter that "it's not about me; it's about the team."

Save the charade, Kobe. It clearly isn't.

There once was a time when I liked number eight. Not because he hailed from Lower Merion, PA, which happens to be quite close to my old stomping grounds, but because he didn't act as though it was his responsibility to disrespect the opposition, shun his teammates, and glorify himself. Back then the Lakers were an elite team, and soon became a short-lived dynasty with their three consecutive championships from 2000 to 2002. Life was good.

And then things fell apart. Little quarrels between Bryant and Shaquille O'Neal or Bryant and Phil Jackson, which had previously been kept on the backburner, ignited into serious conflagrations (pun intended). The Lakers failed to win a fourth consecutive NBA title in 2003, and their hopes of winning one in 2004 with a Hall-of-Fame lineup featuring O'Neal, Bryant, Karl Malone, and Gary Payton were dashed by an overlooked blue-collar Detroit Pistons squad in the NBA Finals.

For Bryant, however, even bigger problems transpired. Beginning in the summer of 2003, his formerly clean image suffered a monumental blow when he was charged with sexually assaulting a teenage girl in a Colorado hotel room. He seemed to play with a major chip on his shoulder afterward, and distanced himself considerably from Jackson and O'Neal once his confrontations with them grew fiercer. By the end of the 2004 season, the coach and the center were gone, having indicated that Bryant was too unruly for them to cope with. The following year, the Lakers were lottery bound.

It's difficult to discern exactly when Bryant's character changed. Perhaps the events in the hotel room were the turning point. Then again, maybe he had planned all along to become a one-man show with a "bad boy" image. Either way, it's senseless. He had a great thing going with the Diesel and the Zen Master. Granted they had their problems, but together nobody could stop them. And when Bryant played as though he knew he had teammates on the floor, and maintained an easygoing temperament, his critics were mute.

Of course, it doesn't take much to destroy a team. And it sure doesn't take much to destroy an image. Bryant did both. That's quite an accomplishment.

The thing with the image is that, since the escapade in Eagle County two-and-a-half years ago, Bryant has ultimately made things worse by his own volition. It's as if he's embraced the negative publicity. Besides essentially running O'Neal and Jackson out of town, he's criticized his teammates for forcing him to do everything (despite doing little to get them involved in the first place), let his ego run wild, and assimilated the cheap shot into his repertoire; just ask Mike Miller about that elbow to the throat last month.

Without question, Bryant is a great talent. Even before this year's scoring barrage, he was easily one of the five or ten best players in the league. His recent performance is impressive, but scoring fifty, sixty, one-hundred points a night for the Lakers will not make them a good team. Michael Jordan doing that for the Chicago Bulls made them good. Chamberlain doing that for the Philadelphia 76ers made them good. Why? They were players who had the ability to make those around them better. Bryant isn't capable of that, or if he is, he's reluctant to do so. He tried to prove he could win without O'Neal last year, and the Lakers went 34-48. Meanwhile, Shaq went to Miami, helped Dwayne Wade develop into the Bryant of some five years ago, and the Heat went 59-23.

Recently the Lakers have lost four of their last five games. Los Angeles currently stands in third place in the NBA's Pacific Conference, seven games back of the first place Phoneix Suns. Lamar Odom has been a key contributor in helping out Kobe. Odom leads the team in rebounds and assists. Center Chris Mihm has been a defensive force, averaging over 1.2 blocks per game.

Last week, ESPN's Scoop Jackson expertly noted that the "new" Bryant plays as if he's in a one-on-one game against the world. His teammates, his fans, the NBA, everyone is the "enemy." To me, this is a highly accurate observation. Considering the turmoil surrounding Kobe over the last couple of years, you have to wonder if his real enemy isn't himself. Perhaps Kobe needs an attitude adjustment. Perhaps Kobe has not shared the scoring enough with his teammates, although he could use some help.

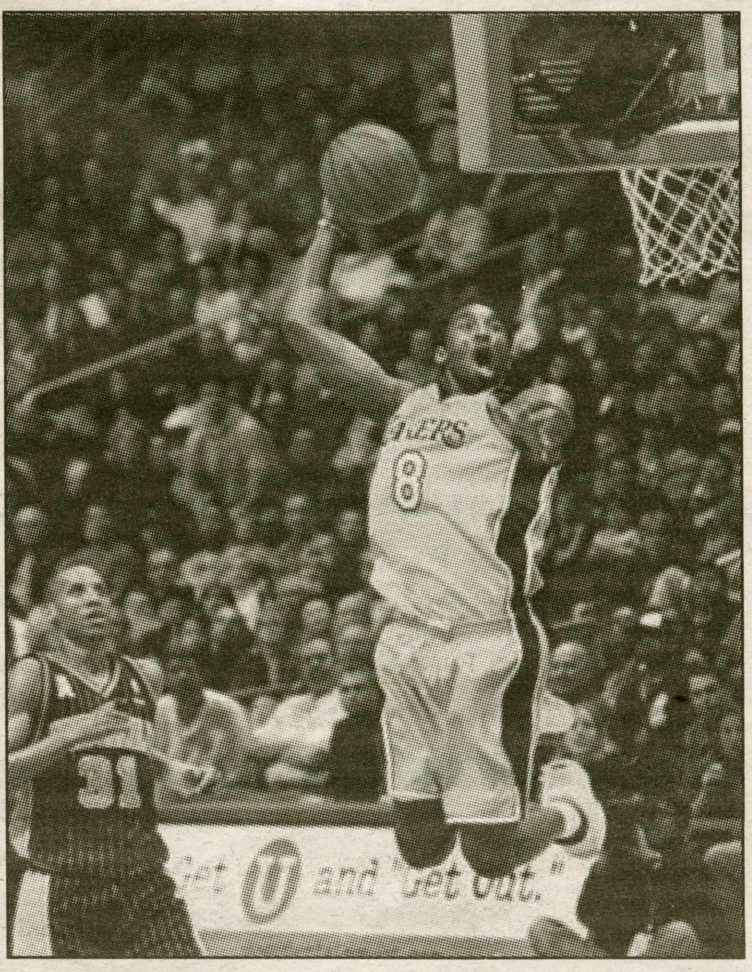

PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.SITEVIP.NET

Men's hockey loses two

by T.J. Reynolds '07
SPORTS WRITER

Just 42 seconds into Friday night's game against Colby, the buff and blue had a 1-0 lead as Casey Deak '07 added his third goal in the last four games. Unfortunately, the early goal was not a sign of things to come. While they outshot Colby 34-31, the Continentals were shutout for the remaining 59 minutes of play. Colby tied the game less than two minutes later and were able to put in another two goals before the end of the first period.

Goalie Gabe Tash '06 was pulled after he let in the fourth goal of the game three minutes into the second period. Matt Crowson '09 came in the game and stopped 15 of the 16 shots he faced. Colby forward T.J. Kelley '08 had a goal and an assist in the 5-1 win over Hamilton and scored a pair of goals against Amherst the following day in another 5-1 win, earning him NESCAC Player of the Week.

Hamilton then traveled to Brunswick, Maine on Saturday to take on the nationally ranked Bowdoin Polar Bears. The Continentals once again scored first with a goal from Erik Kallio '06 at the 7:38 mark in the first period. Chris Clarkson '07 and Warren Berkstresser '06 were credited with the assists. Kallio's goal was his twelfth of the season and tied him with Gus Katsuras '06 for the team lead. Crowson stopped all 13 shots he saw in the first period.

Bowdoin got on the board early in the second period evening the scored at 1-1 at the 1:48 mark. Bowdoin then took advantage of two power play opportunities, scoring two goals less than a minute apart from each other. Bowdoin was able to increase their lead on a short-handed goal with eight minutes left in the second period. Chris Clarkson '07 cut the deficit as he added his fourth goal of the season on a power play goal midway through the final period. Bowdoin, however, was able to convert on yet another power play opportunity with only a few minutes left in regulation. Clarkson and Kallio each finished with a goal and an assist apiece in the 5-2 loss. Kallio now has 61 career points and Clarkson has 41 in his three year career.

Coach Phil Grady awarded senior forward Mike Hayes with the team "hard hat." The hard hat is not awarded often, but Hayes' hard work in Saturday's game against Bowdoin was worthy of the esteemed honor.

The men's hockey team had won their last five out of six games going into last weekend's trip to Maine. The weekend's losses dropped the Continentals to sixth place in the NESCAC with 16 points. Though they are disappointed with the weekend's outcome, they will not let the setback determine their outlook and play on the remainder of the season.

This is a big weekend as the team takes on the St. Anslem Hawks tonight at 7:00 p.m. in Sage Rink. The Continentals will then host New England College on Sunday. A successful weekend would help Hamilton's chances of hosting a playoff game.

This weekend marks the last set of home games for the talented senior class. There is a possibility of a home playoff game although it is definitely not a certainty. Hamilton has had some remarkable individual performers. Hamilton students, faculty and staff should make their way to Sage Rink and applaud this gifted collection of senior players.

Men's bball keeps on rolling

by Jack Maloney '08
SPORTS WRITER

The Hamilton College men's basketball team has watched another week come and go, and they still remain perched atop the Liberty League standings. The Continentals had yet another clean sweep this past weekend, facing league opponents Skidmore and Union. Hamilton now enjoys a 17-3 record, including a very impressive 9-1 in Liberty League action. The tough come-from-behind win against Union this past Saturday should prove to be very good experience come playoff time.

Friday night, however, was by no means a close game. From the first tip-off it was clear that Skidmore was overmatched by Hamilton in every facet of the game. Proof of this was the early lead that the Continentals were able to take. The first 21 points of the game were scored by Hamilton. After this quick start, the team was able to coast easily by Skidmore to the tune of a 104-72 victory.

Nick Jones '07 had another impressive game, scoring 16 points in just 14 minutes on the court. He accomplished this by going 6-7 from the field, including a perfect 4-4 from behind the arch. Giorgi Chavleishvili '08 also turned in a strong game, finishing with 15 points. Tim Welchons '06, Phil Valenti '06 and Jeff Bernardi '07 all finished with 12 points each, which marked a career high for Bernardi.

This game was at no point close. Hamilton did not let a team that had no business playing with them keep the game within reach. The following afternoon, however, would not be nearly as effortless.

The Scott Field House saw a larger than usual crowd come out to support the team on Senior Day. It was going to take solid effort from all players to get passed the Union Dutchmen.

The beginning of the game was fairly even. Towards the end of the first half, however, Union went on a 15-2 run. Hamilton tried to battle back but ended up going into the break down 39-31. Luckily, however, momentum shifted in the second half as the Continentals came out of the locker room ready to play.

Hamilton went on a 15-0 streak early in the second half. The Dutchmen briefly battled back, but after a 9-0 Hamilton run with just under seven minutes to play the Continentals had all but secured victory. They kept this 10 point lead intact and finished with a score of 80-70.

Tsakane Ngobeni '07 had his second double-double in his last three games. He reached this mark with 16 points while grabbing an unprecedented 14 rebounds. Welchons lead the team in scoring with 18 points. Valenti kept up his impressive play finishing the game with 13 points and a game-high five steals. He has shown a nose for the ball all season and is currently leading the league in steals with 68 and is now seventh in the country in steals per game.

Jones added 10 points of his own and Staunton Peck '06 ended with nine points and dished out a team high five assists.

The team really elevated its game in the second half. It was a testament to the senior leadership that has been present all year. There is no surprise that on Senior Day, all three seniors helped in some way or another to guide the team to victory.

The Continentals will travel to Poughkeepsie, New York to play Vassar tonight and then to Troy, New York on Saturday afternoon to take on Rensselaer. Both games are necessary for Hamilton to win if they wish to remain atop the Liberty League. Barring a complete collapse, the Continentals should be hosting a playoff game on the Hill.

Beat the Experts

Beat the "Experts" is by no means associated with organized gambling on professional or college athletics. Each week, we will pick several games in which to choose winners, and we will have a special guest pick winners as well.

Season Record:	Nick Rockwell *Spectator* Sports Editor **23-13**	Eileen Starrett *Spectator* Sports Editor **11-13**	Ian Mandel *Spectator* Senior Editor **21-15**	Emma Furman *Spectator* Editor-in-Chief **12-24**	Allison Currie Sophomore Swimmer
Men's NCAA Basketball					
#19 Iowa @ #21 Indiana, 2/11	Indiana	Iowa	Indiana	Indiana	Indiana
Kentucky @ Vanderbilt, 2/11	Kentucky	Kentucky	Vandy	Vandy	Vandy
VA Tech @ Virginia, 2/11	Tech	Tech	UVA	UVA	Tech
#9 Illinois @ #17 Ohio State, 2/12	Illinois	OSU	Illinois	Illinois	Illinois
#10 WVU @ #16 Georgetown, 2/12	W. Virginia	W. Virginia	Georgetown	Georgetown	Georgetown
NBA					
Memphis @ LA Lakers, 2/11	Lakers	Lakers	Lakers	Lakers	Lakers
Philadelphia @ Washington, 2/12	Washington	Washington	Philly	Washington	Washington
Detroit @ Miami, 2/12	Miami	Miami	Detroit	Miami	Miami
San Antonio @ Cleveland, 2/13	Spurs	Cleveland	Spurs	Spurs	Cleveland
NHL					
NY Rangers @ Toronto, 2/11	Toronto	Toronto	Rangers	Rangers	Rangers
Philadelphia @ Ottawa, 2/11	Ottawa	Ottawa	Ottawa	Ottawa	Ottawa
Buffalo @ Carolina, 2/12	Carolina	Carolina	Carolina	Carolina	Buffalo
Dallas @ LA Kings, 2/12	Dallas	Dallas	Kings	Kings	Dallas

Women's basketball upsets Union by 11 points

PHOTO BY DAN WITTENBERG '07

by Eileen Starrett '07
SPORTS EDITOR

Last weekend, the Women's basketball team hosted Union and Skidmore for two important League games.

Friday night, the Conts hosted Skidmore and won 59-47. Hamilton was led by starter Laura Wetmore '09 who had 12 points and by Jessica Barrows '08 who had 13 of her own points off of the bench. Pumla Sathula '08 grabbed six solid rebounds and had four points for the night. Madelyn McGuinnis '09 and Sydney Fasulo '09 also had six rebounds each. Scoring percentages were pretty even on Friday as the Continentals shot 39 percent (23-59) from the field while Skidmore shot 38.5 percent (20-52).

Saturday afternoon, the Continentals upset Union in what started as a nail biter, winning 52-41. The Continentals are now tied for fourth in the Liberty League and Union is in third place. Sathula led the team with a double-double, scoring 14 points and grabbing 13 rebounds. Wetmore had another solid game with ten points and four rebounds. Fasulo had six points but an incredible 12 rebounds.

Jess Barrows '08 scored all eight of her points in the second half of the game. Union was the last home game for the team's co-captains Erin Daugherty '06 and Jessie Pisegna '06. Daugherty had a great game before fouling out. She may have scored just three points, but she had seven rebounds, four steals, three assists and two blocks.

Daugherty's intensity has been incredible all season. Likewise, Pisegna had a great game. She had six points, four rebounds and two steals. Following Daugherty and Fasulo's leads, the team had an incredible 51 rebounds over Union's 35. Their 14 steals and awesome defense helped buoy the team through their low 34.8 percent scoring.

This weekend, the team travels Friday to Poughkeepsie, NY, for another league game at Vassar College. They also travel Saturday to Troy, NY for a game versus league rival RPI. The Continentals beat Vassar earlier in the season but look to avenge their earlier home loss to RPI.

A month ago RPI beat Hamilton with a score of 63-54. Keeping up the strong defensive play and with solid shooting off of the bench, the Continentals look to add two more W's to the win column before the close of their season. Look for the Lady Continentals to play well in these league matches and hopefully improve their league standings. The team only has five games remaining so each one is crucial.

Track competes as unit

by Doug Paetzell '09
SPORTS WRITER

Last weekend, the Hamilton College men's track and field team traveled to Syracuse University to compete against many tough teams. Even though many Division I squads, like Syracuse University, Colgate University, and Binghamton University, showed up to the meet, the Continentals proved they were ready to face off against some of the best.

Throughout the recent Syracuse meet, there were many complications and difficulties for the Continentals. "The bureaucratic nature of the meet was really frustrating," explained co-captain Kyle Graham '06. In one instance, the pole vault officials did not let athletes help catch marks. Another setback occurred in the mile run when the officials consolidated two races into one large race. Unfortunately, due to this error caused by the officials, some of Hamilton runners were unable to compete in this event.

Despite these setbacks, the Hamilton Continentals forged ahead and performed some of their best marks of the season. Co-captain Jesse Gaylord '06 explained, "We had some great performances on an unorthodox track, and as a result, are looking strong for the upcoming championships." In the grueling 3000-meter run, Allan Guiney '08 ran an impressive 9:02.59 minutes to finish fourth place in the entire field. Guiney ran this time during his first attempt of the season in this event and set Hamilton's top time in the event for the current year. Another impressive performance came from pole-vaulter Kyle Graham, who placed fifth overall by clearing a height of 4.2 meters. Peter Woodruff '09 placed sixth in the 800-meter run with a time of 2:05.25.

Hamilton's runners, throwers and jumpers hope to improve on these marks for the next meet, the Liberty League Championship. The athletes are looking to work on a few key aspects in order to win the championship. Graham explained, "As was the case earlier in the ear, each meet the team learns to adapt to tougher competition while setting and achieving new goals." This weekend, Hamilton will face some of the toughest competition they have seen all year. Teams like Rochester, St. Lawrence, Union and Rensselaer will be present, all of which can place strong athletes in every event.

The Continentals must work together if they hope to win the championship. "We are a stronger team unit than in ears past and as a result, we will go into the championship season with our best outlook in years," explained Gaylord. As a team, the athletes work together to push each other harder and push their performances to the next level.

"Guys who have been doing well for us will have to step up and score big. Guys who are on the margin in terms of scoring points are going to have to find a way to grab points here or there," added Graham. Overall, every last point will count for the Continentals.

In addition, Hamilton's coaching staff has been working diligently to strategically place runners in events where they can score the most points. Throughout the week, Coach Brett Hull worked to compare all of the Liberty League teams and their athletes that will be performing at Saturday's meet. Hull then placed runners in events that the Continentals will be able to take away the greatest amount of points.

The team is looking forward to competing this weekend. "Tough times don't last but tough people do," explained Gaylord. He continued, "With that mentality, we will conquer everything the other teams throw at us."

The team competes next at the Liberty League Championships hosted by St. Lawrence.

Athlete of the Week: Suzie Wilson '06

PHOTO BY SUZIE WILSON '06

Full name: Suzanne G. Wilson

High school/Hometown: Chelmsford High School; Chelmsford, MA

Birthday: April 17, 1984

Concentration: Sociology

Location on Campus:
2400 Griffin Road

Relationship Status:
Perfectly single.

Sport & Position/Events:
Swimming, backstroke.

Post-Graduate plans?:
Not a clue?

Greatest High School Sports Memory/Achievement: Beating our all time rival who had not lost a swim meet in 13 years!

Greatest College Sports Memory/Achievement: All-American.

School Records/League Accolades/Awards?: All-American, School record in the 200 backstroke, Female Swimmer of the Year ('05), Female Rookie of the Year ('03), Liberty League Athlete of the Week.

Describe yourself in 3 words:
Energetic, social, boozie.

Favorite Professor:
Professor Mason

Favorite Celebrity:
Matthew McConaughey

Favorite Movie(s): "Elf," "Wedding Crashers," "The Notebook," "The Goonies," "A League of Their Own."

Favorite Book(s): "The Nanny Diaries," "The Purpose Driven Life."

Favorite Food: Hard to pinpoint but probably candy, all of it.

Favorite Music: Coldplay, DMB, David Gray, Svensk Dance Musik.

Favorite TV Show: "OC," "Grey's Anatomy," "Desperate Housewives," "Family Guy," "Sex and the City," and "The Bachelor."

On campus jobs?: I have no time for jobs, TJ runs my show.

Fondest Hamilton Memory:
Da Bank, Suite 25.

Best Hamilton Party: Farm Party '04; it was so much fun I can't quite remember it all.

Last Movie You Saw in Theaters: "Something New" and "Annapolis". . . both I definitely recommend.

Elliptical or Treadmill? It's been a while since I've worked out at the gym.....although, I do have respect for the elliptical.

Valentine's Day Plans?:
Flying to Sweden.

George or McDreamy for Meredith...?: Definitely McDreamy! Love him.

If you didn't swim, what would you do on campus?: Look for me on February 20, you'll get the picture.

Spectator Sports

February 10, 2006

Women's hockey tied for fifth in the NESCAC

by John Cloonan '07
SPORTS WRITER

If you didn't make it to Sage Rink last Tuesday night, you missed an extended exhibition of talented hockey. The ladies battled through exhaustion, into an overtime tie with cross-town rival Utica College. In a swirl of blue and orange, red hot slap shots and gut-busting checks were delivered over a total of fifty minutes. When the final buzzer rang, only two lucky pucks had crossed the goal line. Sixty-five shots had been fired during the evening, but a goal apiece was all each team could claim. With three games left in the season, these ladies showed they aren't giving up without a fight.

The Hamilton Lady Continentals are currently tied for fifth place in the NESCAC women's hockey conference. Their 9-11-1 record, however, doesn't do justice to the amount of heart and tenacity this team retains. Their fifth place counterpart is Amherst College, and the hated Jeffs are doing everything they can to move up in the rankings. Despite their efforts, hard fought games like Tuesday night's will ensure the Lady Conts success as we move closer to the postseason. Every girl on the ice was playing her heart out, and if the effort levels remain steady, victories will be the only result.

The Continentals, who split last weekend, were put on the defensive early in the game. Utica scored an unassisted goal late in the first period. Despite close opportunities, the ladies went through almost four straight minutes of power play time, yet could not capitalize on it. In all, Hamilton ended up zero for six on the power play. It wasn't until 4:33 was left in the second period, that the Lady Conts were successful in penetrating the Pioneer goal. The two teams battled for a lead for the remainder of the game, but to no avail. The Pioneers had an amazing chance to win with twenty-seven seconds remaining in regulation on a power play shot. A hooking call on a breakaway gave Utica a one on one opportunity. However, a wide shot caused the game to continue into overtime. After another hardfought five minutes, the scoreboard was still gridlocked.

One reason they were able to get the tie rather than a loss was the Hamilton goaltending. For the sixth time this season, Kathryn Manning '09 was the lucky lady between the pipes, and she performed. Making twenty-seven shots, and five crucial over time saves, the freshman goalie was able to hold onto the tie. Another spectacular freshman performance came from Kathryn Kroleski, who scored her ninth career goal late in the second period. An assist from team veteran Tierney Boisvert '07 allowed Kroleski to flip the puck over the Utica goaltender. Kroleski has nine points in the last eight games, and the team is 5-2-1 over that stretch.

PHOTO BY DAN WITTENBERG '07

This game is concrete evidence that the team has developed and matured over the season. Zoe Baldwin '06 set a Hamilton College women's hockey career points record with a first period assist in their game this past weekend versus Bowdoin. In their previous encounter, Utica beat the Conts 5-2. This time around, Hamilton outshot the Pioneers 37-28, and played a more physical game of hockey. The Conts have three games remaining on their schedule.

Though the playoffs are a definite, the two final conference games will be a good sign as to how the ladies will perform in the tournament. Their next home game is February 17 at 7 p.m. in Sage Rink against Middlebury, so come support the Lady Continentals in one of their last games in Sage Rink.

NESCACs: women to Bowdoin; men to Williams

PHOTO BY TAYLOR AUSTIN '06

by Meaghan LaVangie '09
SPORTS WRITER

The men's and women's swimming and diving teams faced RPI this past Saturday in a Liberty League meet. The Women's team had a very successful run at RPI and ended up defeating them by a score of 130-100. Over the course of the meet, the women won all eleven events. Seven members on the team were honored. Those members include seniors Suzie Wilson, Taylor Austin, Emily Clinkhammer, Chelsea Fellows- Swenson, Courtney McBride, Caitlin Pegnim, and Kelly Vaughan. Suzie Wilson '06 qualified for the NCAA championship 'B' cut in the 200-meter backstroke. Mary Tripp '09 finished first in both the 200 yard freestyle and the 500 free. Eve Stevens '09, Stefani Capizzi '09, Christine Mays '07 and Maura Donovan '09 were also individual event winners.

The Men's team was not as successful against RPI. They lost a very close meet, 113-130. However, they were able to win six events. Mark Hodges '07 won the 1,000 free in a time of 9:58.28 and he also won the 200 butterfly in a time of 1:59.88. His time in the fly is the best time in the league this season. Toddy Johnson '08 made the NCAA championship 'B' cut in the 100 yard backstroke. Jason Brown '09 and Christian Warner '07 both turned in two second place finishes. Michael Salmon '06 won both diving events. During this final meet, nine members were recognized and each received a plaque in honor of their dedication and commitment to Hamilton Swimming and Diving.

The meet against RPI marked the final regular season meet for both teams. They will both head to NESCACs. The women compete next weekend at Bowdoin College, in Brunswick, ME, and the men travel to Williamstown, MA in two weeks. In an earlier interview Coach T.J. Davis mentioned that one of his long-term goals was to win a NESCAC championship. With regard to the men's meet, Michael Salmon commented, "Our primary competition will come from Williams, Amherst and Tufts. The backstroke events will be exciting as the national champion, Will Cunningham from Williams, looks to defend his NESCAC titles against a competitive field of underclassmen from other NESCAC schools. The distance events should also be competitive, as Mark Hodges, Jason Brown and Timmy Reed should place high for our Hamilton squad."

Five Hamilton swimmers and divers were honored in the Liberty League this past week. Mark Hodges '07 was named a Men's Co-Swimmer of the Week and his teammate Mike Salmon '06 was named the Men's Diver of the Week for the fifth time this year. Freshman Jason Brown earned a Men's Co-Rookie of the Week award. Suzie Wilson '06 earned a Women's Co-Swimmer of the Week award and her teammate Eve Stevens '09 earned a Women's Co-Rookie of the Week honor.

The teams should fare well at their own championship meets.